

DIRECT ACTION

WEB
FEATURE

A special feature from DirectAction.org

from the DA Archives

GroundWork 06: Defending Our Forests

GroundWork was a successor to Direct Action newspaper – for which the novel *Direct Action* was named. In 1989, several former DA collective members joined a San Francisco-based collective publishing Green Letter magazine, loosely affiliated with the pre-Green Party grassroots Greens' movement.

In 1992, as the Greens morphed into an electoral party, we renamed the magazine GroundWork and became an independent grassroots voice. Circulation peaked at 8000 copies, with subscribers in almost every US state and Canadian province as well as across Europe.

Each issue offered general grassroots reporting as well as in-depth coverage of a particular theme. The issues on Nuclear Waste were the most comprehensive report available on this secretive and ever-shifting topic in the 1990s.

- GroundWork Issue 1 (1992) - 500 Years of Resistance
- GroundWork Issue 2 (1992) - Health and Organizing
- GroundWork Issue 3 (1993) - Nuclear Waste - Part I
- GroundWork Issue 4 (1994) - Nuclear Waste - Part II
- GroundWork Issue 5 (1995) - Grassroots Dialog
- GroundWork Issue 6 (1996) - Defending Our Forests
- GroundWork Issue 7 (1998) - Grassroots Overview

Download all seven issues at: DirectAction.org/groundwork/

Photo: 2011 Foreclose the Banks protest in downtown San Francisco, by Luke Hauser.



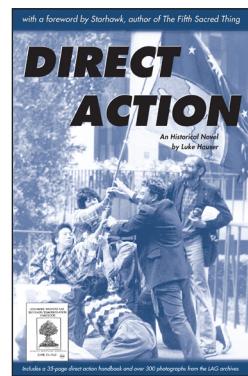
DIRECT ACTION

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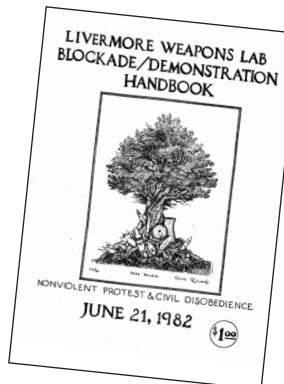


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Handbooks contain site-specific
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Photos and news — direct from the grassroots

\$3

Ground Work

Issue #6

© 1996

*Defending
Our
Forests*

Native American
News

Environmental
Justice

Social Organizing

**NUCLEAR
WASTE**
AND THE GRASSROOTS

Ground Work

GroundWork is a photo-newsmagazine covering community organizing, direct action, and other grassroots work. GroundWork was formerly called "Green Letter." Our fiscal sponsor is the Tides Foundation (After April 1, 1996, Tides Center), San Francisco. ISSN #1085-2751.

GroundWork #6 was published in April 1996.

GroundWork welcomes input from our readers. Please send articles, photos, announcements etc as early as possible — see opposite page for details.

Photos and texts c. 1996. Reprints by nonprofits okay, but please credit author and GroundWork (and print our address!), and do not edit without author's consent.

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of GroundWork.

Cover photo: Orin Langelle, Native Forest Network

The GroundWork Collective: Margo Adair, Steve Nadel, Tori Woodard & George Franklin

Very special thanks to: Karen Pickett, Marjorie Gell, Diana Scott, Ken Wong, Steve Leeds, Patrick Diehl, Nilak Butler

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Mike & the crew at Stat Station, Valencia Street		
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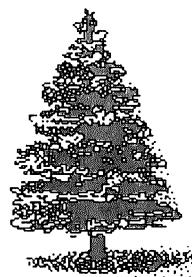
 and special thanks to our generous and patient readers!



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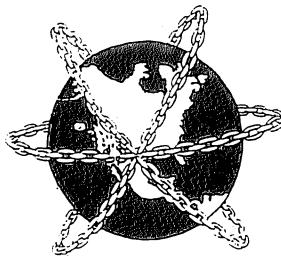


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Submitting Articles, Graphics & Photos to GroundWork

GroundWork welcomes reports from readers. You are our connection to the grassroots in your area. We are particularly interested in accounts of events and actions, and appreciate analytical articles which are tied to specific organizing. We will consider press releases or original accounts of events.

Groups — Put us on your mailing list. We look through the dozens of publications we receive, to get ideas for stories. Also, consider getting bulk bundles of GroundWork to resell as a fundraiser for your group — see back inside cover.

Photographers: Photos are essential to our vision of GroundWork. We want photos of events, actions, art projects, community organizing and service, and alternative culture. We can return photos after using them, and will consider paying for processing, printing and mailing — please contact us first, at (415) 255-7623.

Artists: We appreciate receiving graphic work. Please do not send original artwork. High-quality xeroxes or stats are great; or have your work scanned into a Mac format that can be read by Aldus Pagemaker.

Readers: Keep us in touch with your area. Show GroundWork to people you know. Ask groups to send us their newsletters. And when you are involved in a project, send us photos and a story!

If you can distribute sample copies at a conference, or to groups and bookstores in your area, let us know — call (415) 255-7623 or see back inside cover.

And please — **Support us** financially! We depend on your donations to publish GroundWork.

graphic from
Santa Cruz
Monthly



Dear readers,

We're glad to be sending you *GroundWork* #6. The variety of grassroots organizing going on in North America is a constant source of encouragement to us, and we greatly appreciate the dozens of writers, photographers, and organizers who made this issue possible.

The choice of a theme was difficult. We considered coordinating a discussion of "scapegoating" issues — immigration, affirmative action, welfare, and other topics which the Right is casting as the causes of the notable drop in standard of living that has affected all but the richest sector of U.S. society over the past generation. The feature article which leads off our National News section, "Creating an Environment of Blame," addresses the attempt of the Right to recruit environmentalists to their anti-immigrant views.

We know that the real issues are getting lost in mainstream media hype, and we want to bring increased attention to the truth behind the hype. To do this, we need to hear from readers involved in this work, and we need your help in contacting groups in your area which could educate us on the grassroots response to conservative attacks on non-privileged members of our society.

At the same time, our friends and allies doing forest organizing are facing the most dangerous challenge in decades — "salvage" logging. For this issue, connections which *GroundWork* has developed over the past several years were tapped to pull together a cross section of front-line work being done in every part of the country. Like our nuclear waste themes (which are followed up in a mini-theme this issue,

pages 32-37), we hope that our overview will help build relations between forest groups and other grassroots organizers across the country.

This issue of *GroundWork* will cost us about \$5000. We have raised the print bill, but urgently need your help in distributing it while the news is still hot.

Please subscribe or renew right away. Bulk copies are also available for just \$1 each. Your contributions at this time will help get all 5000 copies of *GroundWork* #6 out.

For readers who have volunteered to distribute sample copies, we have not forgotten you. Once again, it's a question of finances. We'll send out sample copies of this issue as soon as possible. And if you can take a bundle to a gathering or conference, give us a call.

We will publish a *GroundWork Bulletin* in June, so send announcements and updates as soon as possible. Our goal is to publish four issues in the next calendar year, of which two will be Bulletins. We'll begin work

on our next full issue, *GroundWork* #7, in the fall.

Thank you for your support. The generosity of writers, photographers, contact people, and subscribers made this issue of *GroundWork* a reality.

Casey Adair, 1913-1996

Casey Adair, one of the founding collective members of *GroundWork* magazine, died on Saturday, March 9th, at the age of 82.

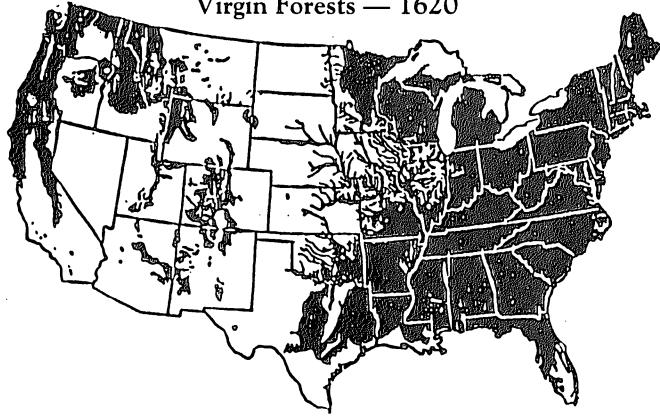
Casey was involved with *GroundWork*'s forerunner, *Green Letter*, from 1987 forward, and she imparted a strong professional tone to this pioneering "green" publication. After the magazine changed its name to *GroundWork* in 1992, her editing and proofreading skills helped guide the publication through its early issues, and her care and affection for her co-workers helped build a collective that has lasted for over five years.

She and her husband John Adair and their three children lived and worked in New York, Maryland, California and periodically in New Mexico, the place they loved the most. In her middle years, Casey worked as a literary editor for the *New Mexico Quarterly*. In 1978, with her daughter Nancy, Casey edited the book *Word Is Out*, based on the film produced by her son, Peter. In the 1980's she edited her daughter Margo's book, *Working Inside Out*.

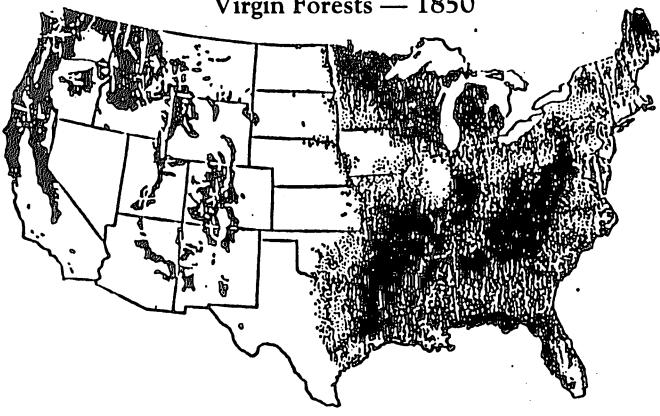
Casey was an avid supporter of social justice and had a passion for reading, arguing, gardening, dogs, the arts, and most importantly, baseball. She will be greatly missed by the *GroundWork* collective and by all who knew her.



Virgin Forests — 1620



Virgin Forests — 1850



The forests are the skin of the Earth, the lungs of the Earth. We human beings are destroying forests worldwide at an alarming rate. Seven years ago it was estimated that the planet was losing 37 million acres of forest a year. The loss has accelerated since then.

The causes vary, among them the need for fuelwood, air pollution, desertification, and development pressures, but the common thread, particularly in the U.S., is corporate profit and compliant regulatory agencies.

The latest threat to our forests is the devastating practice of salvage logging. Thanks to a new law, the Forest Service is able to classify old-growth tracts for "salvage" operations in disregard of biological considerations, allowing logging in previously pristine areas and dealing a tremendous blow to years of work to preserve this national heritage. (Pages 4-7)

One of the great dangers of current logging practices is the fragmentation of ecosystems. Clearcutting vital connecting corridors which link larger tracts of wilderness destroys critical habitat for predators and other species on the brink. As these species disappear, the entire

ecosystem is disrupted. This danger is illustrated by the threatened cutting of the Cove/Mallard area in the northern Rockies, which connects two large roadless wilderness systems. (Pages 8-9.)

A different phenomenon threatens Southeastern forests. Logging a century ago destroyed the old growth but did not clearcut the entire region. Forests have

Defending Our Forests

since regenerated to some degree — enough to attract the interest of multi-national logging corporations, which have swooped in and made Mobile, Alabama a huge center for timber exports. Along with the forests, regional woodworking jobs, practiced on a sustainable basis, are being destroyed. (Pages 10-11)

Defenders of the forests have proposed that since many corporate loggers are also involved in major debt from shaky financial dealings, the federal government

negotiate a "debt for nature" swap to get the trees out of the clearcutters' grasp. Organizing around Headwaters Forest in California provides an example (Page 15).

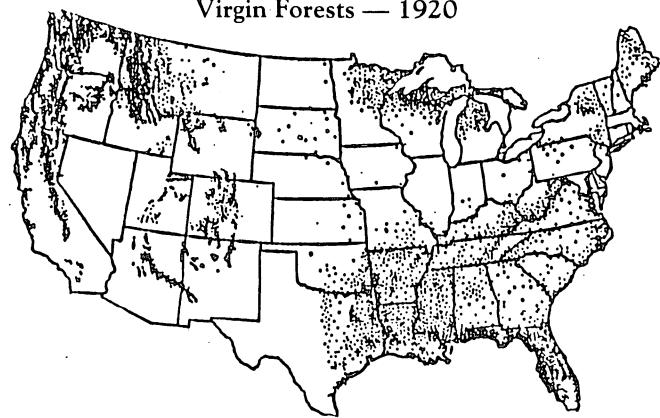
Across the country, activists are mobilizing to stop the destruction. Experiencing the futility of relying solely on government agencies to protect precious resources, people are taking direct action to defend the forests. GroundWork offers a cross-section of activism in four key regions. In addition to the Rockies and the Southeast (see above), we cover organizing in the Northeast (pages 12-13) and the Pacific Northwest (pages 14-15).

Related forest stories in GW #6 include an overview of forests on Indigenous lands (page 19), and two Canadian forest actions covered in our International section (Pages 44-47).

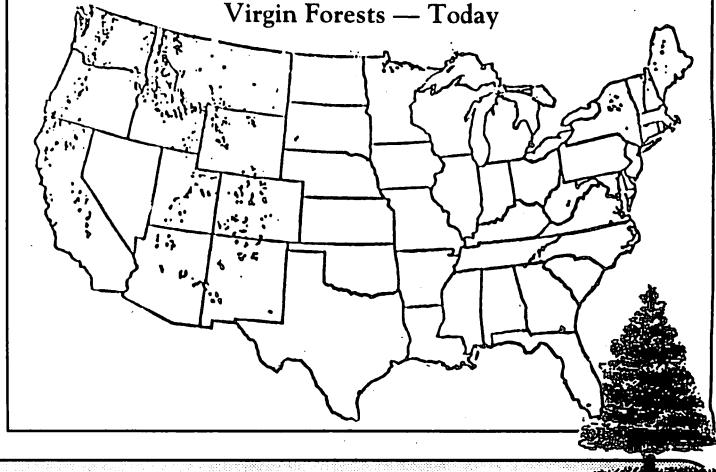
The theme section concludes with two pages of resources offering channels to get involved in every region (pages 16-17).

This theme section was coordinated by GroundWork with invaluable assistance from Karen Pickett of Earth First! and organizers from the Native Forest Network, whose names appear in article and photo credits.

Virgin Forests — 1920



Virgin Forests — Today



Salvage Our

History:
Logging Our
National
Forests

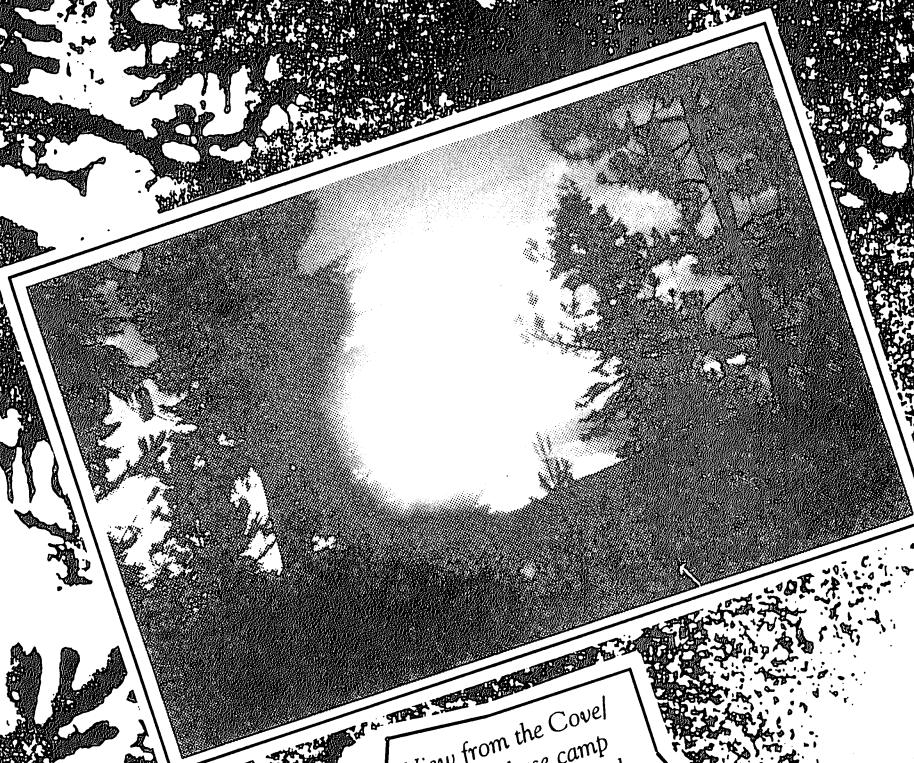
The Forest
Service has
overseen
commercial

logging operations
in the National
Forests since its founding

over 100 years ago. The
National Forests, originally

named the National Forest
Reserves, were formed as a response
to the rampant clearcutting by timber
companies on private lands. In the
early decades, logging levels on the
National Forests were low, only a few
billion board feet per year for the
entire system nationwide, and the
Forest Service actively criticized the
industry's destructive logging practices
on private forest lands. After
World War II, a nationwide building
boom led to increased demand for
wood, and population growth led to
increased use of paper as well. The
private timber companies were
beginning to exhaust the supply of
virgin forests on their own lands, so
logging was accelerated on the
National Forests.

Logging in the National
Forests reached a peak
during the Reagan era,



View from the Cove/Mallard base camp
overlooking the Frank
Church Wilderness of No Return.
Photo courtesy of Cove/Mallard Coalition.

View from the Cove/Mallard base camp overlooking the
Frank Church Wilderness of No Return.
Photo courtesy of Cove/Mallard Coalition (see page 8).

Logging National Forests

achieving a peak output of 13 billion board feet per year in the late 1980s. Virgin and natural forests were being logged at an incredible pace. Whole regions of the Pacific Northwest were being deforested by this enormous amount of logging. Mountain chains in Oregon and Washington were completely denuded of forests as the Forest Service allowed logging operations to strip the land bare.

In protest, local and national environmental groups began to use the timber sale appeal process to stop individual timber sales and the federal court system to stop whole classes of timber sales. A court case brought by environmentalists in 1974 declared that clearcutting was illegal on the National Forests, according to the Organic Act which created the National Forest system. In response, the timber industry pushed Congress to pass the National Forest Management Act in 1976, which specifically legalized clearcutting, and gave the green light to massive clearcutting during the Reagan years. By 1990, 90% of the

original
Ancient
forests in
Washington and
Oregon
were
clearcut
and gone
forever.

Envi-

ronmentalists responded by bringing regional and national lawsuits based on many other national environmental laws, including the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Acts, the Endangered Species Act, and even the National Forest Management Act, which contained some environmental protection language which could be used in court to protect forests. The most famous

court case, the "Spotted Owl" decision, shut down timber sales in the Ancient Forest region of Oregon and Washington because the court found that the Forest Service never created a plan to log Ancient Forests that complied with environmental laws. Logging in the Ancient Forests is driving the spotted owl and many other species to extinction.

continued on page 6

Salvage Logging & Our National Forests

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"Salvage" Logging

The timber industry portrays disease, fire, and insects in the National Forests as a danger to the forests, a nationwide problem of epidemic proportions. The industry proposes that the solution is to log the "sick" forests to the ground to "save" them. According to the timber industry most of the National Forests fall into this sick forest category, which has been dubbed by the timber industry as a "forest health crisis."

Salvage logging supposedly allows the timber industry to "salvage" log trees that are burned or affected by bugs or disease, in order to use the trees for lumber before the "damaged" wood disintegrates, and the wood is not commercially useable. Hence the name "salvage," which "saves" the wood for commercial use before it is "lost."

"Forest Health Crisis" is Timber Industry Hoax

In fact, there is no "forest health" crisis of insects, disease, and fire. The nation's leading expert on forest insects and diseases, Dr. Arthur Partridge, says that forest diseases are at their lowest level in three decades.

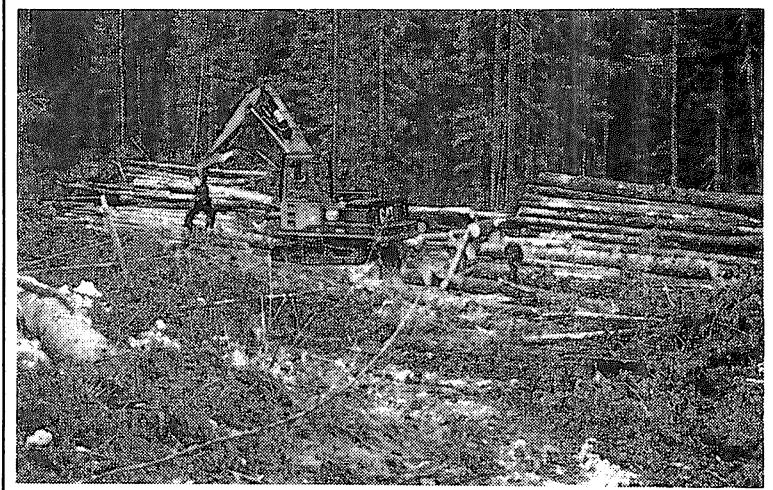
Nature has created insects, disease, and fire as intrinsic and essential parts of the cycle of forest life! Birds, mammals,

amphibians, and reptiles use dying and dead trees as their homes, and eat insects that flourish in dead and dying trees. Fire, insects, and disease kill weaker trees, leaving stronger trees behind. To completely remove or suppress fire, insects, and disease is to destroy the fabric and processes that make forests what they are—dynamically balanced ecosystems which grow and replenish themselves through decay and death.

In a Congressional hearing held February 10, 1995, Dr. Partridge testified that "...the 'forest health crisis' is another paper tiger based on distortions of weak and error-filled information. There is no emergency."

Salvage Sales Used As A Cover For Massive, Anti-Environmental Logging

Further, the timber industry and the Forest Service have not just picked out dead or sick trees under the salvage logging program. They have logged most or *all* the trees in the forests, but labeled these timber operations as "salvage." The reason the salvage label is preferred is that under the Forest Service timber salvage



Feller buncher and sawyer in Noble Creek, Cove/Mallard. See page 8.
Photo by Jake Kreilick/NFN.

program, salvage logging has been less subject to environmental laws and procedures than the regular logging program of the Forest Service. Labeling timber sales "salvage" has allowed the Forest Service to skirt environmental laws.

A 1992 Forest Service internal memo from the Malheur National Forest in Oregon instructed employees to label all sales "salvage". "It's a political thing," the memo said. This revealed a deliberate agency-wide conspiracy to use the salvage program to override environmental protection of forests, in order to log them.

The timber salvage rider was carefully crafted to prevent citizen groups from forcing the Forest Service to comply with existing environmental laws.

Salvage Rider Part Of Long Term Industry Strategy

Conservatives used their takeover of the House and Senate to ram the salvage rider through Congress. Liberals were preoccupied with fighting the "Contract With America," and did not consider defense against the salvage rider the highest priority. One Democratic aide on the House committee overseeing the bill dismissed environmentalists' complaints against the rider saying, "Oh, they're just worried about a few dead trees out west." The timber industry had successfully fooled many in Congress into thinking that the salvage rider was a trivial piece of legislation tacked on as a favor to a few

continued on page 7, last column



Noble Creek cutting units, Cove/Mallard. Activists have been organizing to stop clearcutting of this pristine wilderness area (see page 8-9). Photo by Jake Kreilick, NFN.

Salvage Logging

Its Impact on Our Forests

The new Salvage laws are already destroying public forests across the country. Some examples:

Conecuh National Forest, Alabama

After Hurricane Opal blew down 5% of the trees in this forest, the Forest Service issued a "salvage" sale of over 50% of the area of the Conecuh Forest.

White River National Forest, Colorado

Since environmental protections have been waived by the new salvage laws, previously blocked logging sales have been revived. This area is the second largest wilderness area in the region, and home to several sensitive species.

Payette and Boise National Forests, Idaho

Three large groups of "salvage" sales are planned for roadless wilderness areas. Since passage of the salvage law, the Forest Service has scrapped the environmental review process it had been pursuing.

Ottawa National Forest, Michigan

Forty-seven clearcut units are proposed for

areas bordering trout streams. The area is home to many threatened and sensitive species such as the grey wolf.

Chippewa National Forest, Minnesota

Even though blown down trees are vital for the perpetuation of the ecosystem, the Forest

Service has expedited a "salvage" sale in the forest.

Flathead National Forest, Montana

This healthy old growth forest is key habitat for grizzly bears and bull trout.

Proposed logging would occur on slopes

with sensitive soils. The "salvage" sale is being justified because of cases of "root rot," but logging may exacerbate the situation.

Chugach National Forest, Alaska

The Forest Service has proposed a "salvage sale" which threatens prime habitat for salmon, wolves, and grizzly bears. Over 50 million board feet are slated for logging in the next two years.

A new 10-minute video on this threat is available from Alaska Center for the Environment, 907-274-3621.

Daniel Boone National Forest, Kentucky

"Salvage" sales threaten habitat of the endangered Indiana bat.

Willamette National Forest, Oregon

The forests of Warner Creek, protected as a spotted owl recovery area, were burned by an arsonist in 1991. A federal judge had barred any logging of the area, but the

new salvage law has overridden the objection, basically legalizing arson as a means of obtaining logging permits.

From Save America's Forests. Contact 4 Library Court SE, Washington DC 20003, 202-544-9219. See also page 17.



Peace Camp to stop logging in Washington state. Photo by Dana Schuerholz, Impact Visuals.

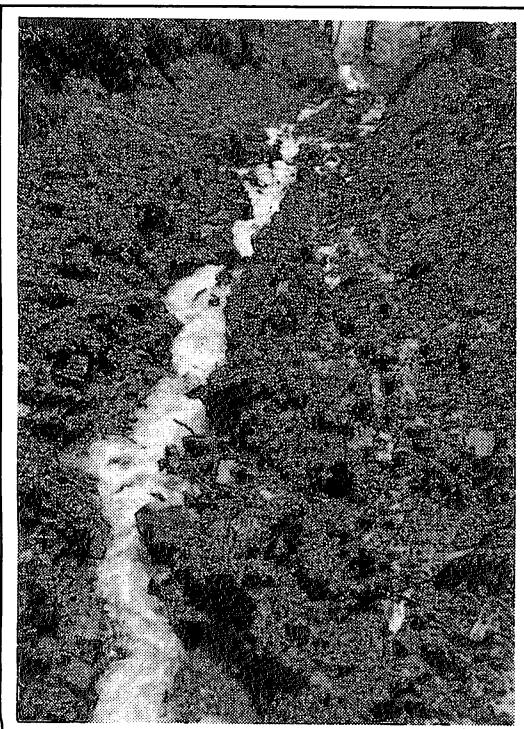
Salvage Logging

continued from previous page

timber congressmen. Many environmental leaders in Congress did not comprehend that the salvage rider would affect National Forests throughout America.

The salvage rider was the culmination of a long-term timber industry strategy to take complete control of our National Forests. Claiming that there is a "forest health crisis" that could only be "cured" with logging of public lands, timber lobbyists paved Congress with lies. While the Forest Service was busy marking timber sales as "salvage" for the past several years, timber industry lobbyists were working to dismantle the laws and regulations that were keeping these "salvage" sales from being logged. That effort came to bitter fruition with the passage of the salvage rider.

From Save America's Forests. Contact 4 Library Court SE, Washington DC 20003, 202-544-9219. See also page 17.



Erosion of an abandoned logging road in Floyd County, Kentucky. Courtesy of Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (see page 49)



Cove/Mallard: Defending

by Natalie Shapiro

For the past several years, activists in some of the last and largest roadless forest areas of the continental United States have been fighting to defend the Cove/Mallard area of the Nez Perce National Forest in Idaho. While working in coalition with diverse groups, forest activists have resorted to nonviolent direct action as a last-ditch attempt to stop road-building and logging of this national treasure.

For four days in late July 1995, two activists sat in giant spruce trees in the middle of where the access road to the Jack Sale was being built. They risked their lives; loggers cut huge 90-foot spruce trees that came within inches of hitting one activist's tree.

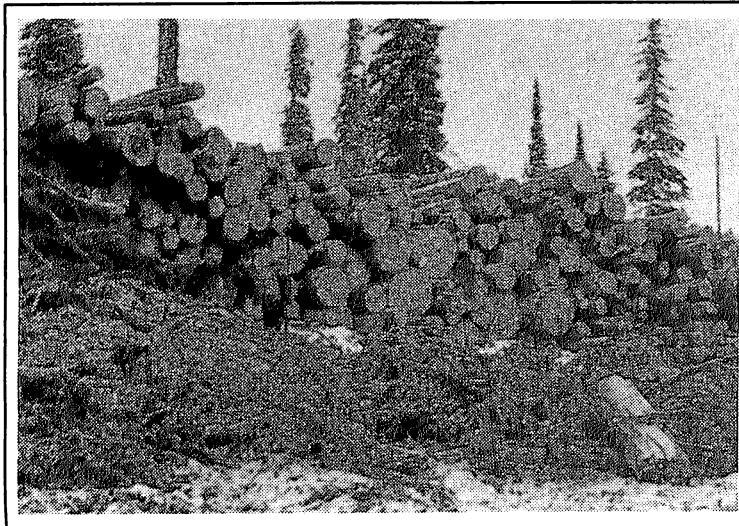
With bulldozers shaking trees as they cut in a new road, the shovel of a yarder actually slammed the trees the activists sat in, time and time again.

Upon seeing the bulldozer's damage to the roots of the tree the other activist was in, one worker told him: "Man, I wouldn't be up there."

The reaction of the Forest Service law enforcement officers who arrived upon the scene? They chased away the support people whose very job it was to ensure that these kinds of dangers were prevented. A treesitter himself had to scream at the Sale Administrator to make him stop a logger from cutting a tree that was about to crash into a traverse line between the two tree-sits, potentially pulling down one of the people up there or crashing into the other. Law enforcement stood idly by and watched as all these incidents took place.

Trying to get in to monitor

The Forest Service also closed two sale areas to the



Join the fight to save Cove/Mallard!

Come out to Cove/Mallard this summer! The kick-off begins Memorial Day weekend.

The Round River Rendezvous (a national Earth First! gathering) is in the Cove/Mallard area from June 30-July 7, 1996 (see page 13).

For more info, call 208-882-9755 or 208-883-0727.



Top photo: Noble Creek blockade, 2/95.

Middle: Log deck in Noble Creek cutting units.

Bottom: Cove/Mallard activists on their way to do forest/streamside monitoring to check for violations.

Page 8 photos by Jake Kreilick.

the Vanishing Wilderness

public, areas where logging activity was occurring. This was in response to two actions earlier this summer, where activists partially buried themselves in a hole in the ground, and locked themselves to the logging road gate.

It was now illegal to go in and observe logging activities.

During the summer and fall of 1995, environmental activists from many different groups wrote Forest Service officials requesting a permit to enter closed areas in order to monitor logging activities in the Cove/Mallard area. The Forest Service responded that it was complying with all regulations, that Forest Service employees were in the area overseeing road building and logging, and that the area was closed to the public due to illegal activity by activists. The activists responded that they were willing to be accompanied by Forest Service officials when in the closed areas. They were still turned down.

The Forest Service has thus denied citizens the right to monitor their own forests!

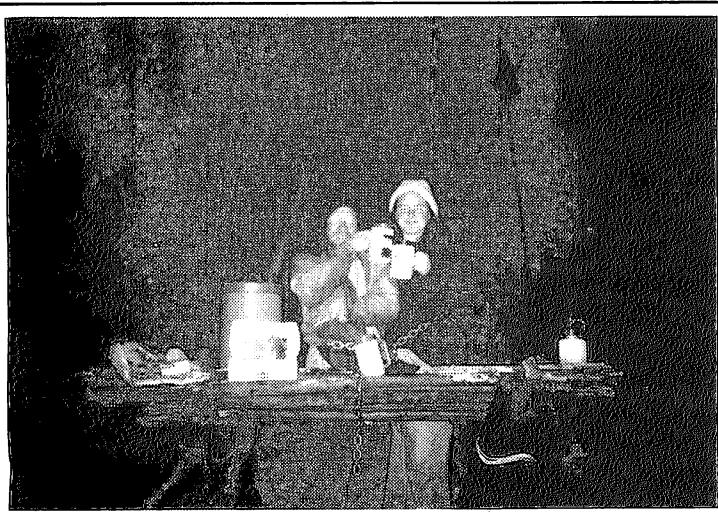
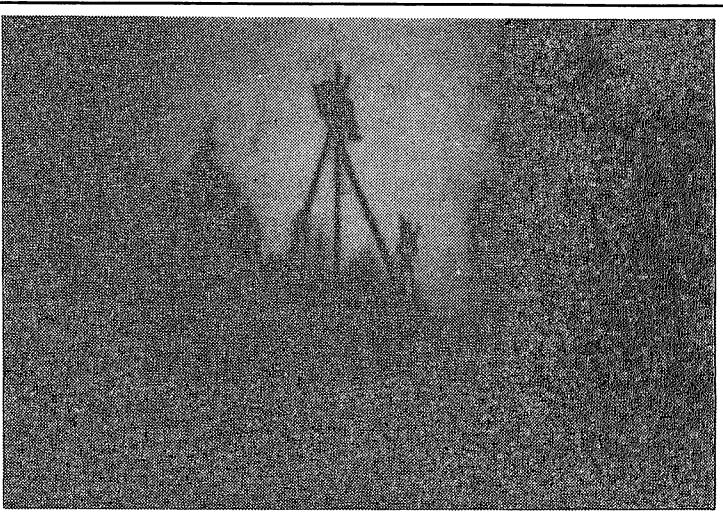
We have also been denied physical access to United States Forest Service (USFS) project files on Cove/Mallard issues. We are allowed access to files in other Forest Service offices, so what are they trying to hide? The only way to get critical information is to use the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Tripod action

In August of 1995, with legal options exhausted, a dozen activists blocked a Forest Service road by erecting two tripods, preventing people from entering the area and logging it. One person sat on the top of each tripod, while others chained themselves to the tripod legs by fastening bicycle locks around their necks.

During this nine-hour action, there were two incidents where guns were discharged by security personnel and loggers. Also, several activists were verbally threatened, and one was even held at gun-point after being physically apprehended by "deputized" subcontractors. One unofficial security guard left the action site and returned drunk and

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Top: Moose and calf in Cove/Mallard. By Jake Kreilick.

Middle: Jack Creek Road blockade, 6/95. By Karen Z.

Lower pair: Activists offer coffee to loggers while blockading the road, chained to the table. In background, tripod blockaders. Photos courtesy of C/M Coalition.



"It does not take a genius to surmise that exporting raw forests eliminates jobs...."

The Southeast: New Mecca for Forest Export

**by Jake Kreilick,
Native Forest Network**

Since the infamous spotted owl injunction in 1991 changed, at least symbolically, the course of forestry in the Pacific Northwest, the timber industry has rebounded with gusto. It's hard to keep a multi-billion dollar industry down for long, especially in the cyclical world of forest products, but diminishing amounts of commercially viable forest and fiber in many parts of the U.S. has forced a shift in both operating approach as well as regional investment strategies.

One of the primary factors responsible for the dramatic turnaround in many companies is the transition from softwood forests in the West to hardwood forests in the East.

From an ecological standpoint, most of these hardwood forests are 70-100 years old, having been cleared in the early 1900s. They are generally dominated by oak, but contain a diversity of trees. Despite the fact that they are second growth and do not contain older classes or all of the former species, these forests have regenerated to the point of being representative of intact, native forest systems.

The reasons for this geographic shift are simple enough: a degraded resource base in many western forests caused by years of overcutting; log and woodchip exports from private and certain state forests; stiffening public resistance to logging in roadless areas, critical watersheds and areas of high conservation value; and declining prices in softwood timber markets.

What has transpired in the past five years is nothing short of a bloodless coup d'etat. From a strategic point of view, the industry has successfully used the West as a public relations ploy to show how desperate their situation is, and as a way to conceal current and future investment and market development.

Despite many key battles occurring over remaining old-growth stands in the Pacific Northwest and over roadless forests in the Rockies, the

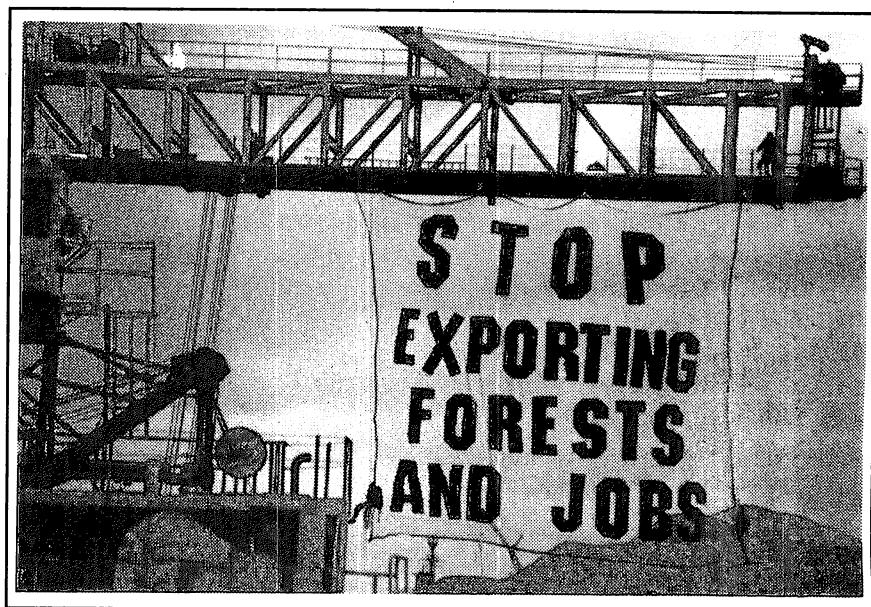
real battleground has now moved east of the Mississippi. The multinational timber corporations have positioned themselves to complete the process of deforestation of the eastern U.S. all over again — this time using machines that would make Paul Bunyan scream!

Cashing in on second growth forests

Nowhere has the rush to cash in on the East's recovering forests been faster than in the Southeast, where, within the past ten years, an unprecedented logging boom has swept the region. Much of the activity centers around the Tennessee River Valley and associated watersheds. The Army Corps of Engineers completed

Chip mills grind trees into woodchips for pulp and paper manufacturing and are the perfected form of overharvesting, mechanization, and export of entire forests.

The Mobile District of the Army Corps of Engineers has illegally issued permits to clusters of chip mills and whole log export facilities throughout the area without conducting even one public hearing. This is in clear violation of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. Construction of the Tenn-Tom Waterway destroyed thousands of acres of wetlands, and biologists estimate that over 150 species of fish and mollusks have disappeared.



Two activists rappel down the huge banner at the December 1995 Port of Mobile action. See next page. Photo by L.G. Fletcher.

the Tenn-Tom Waterway in 1986, which together with the port of Mobile, Alabama serve as the funnel to drain these previously inaccessible and uneconomical forests.

The reason why exports have increased so much can be traced to the proliferation of chip mills. Though chip mills have always existed to feed domestic pulp and paper facilities, the recent trend is to site them on rivers, reservoirs, and canals to supply foreign markets. This phenomenon has totally changed the face of forestry in the southeast.

Numerous other forest-dependent species like Black bears, Red Cockaded woodpeckers and salamanders are also at risk.

Public subsidies for these policies range from reduced rates for electricity, tax exemptions, and perpetual dredging and upkeep of waterways.

Local economies pay the price

As a result of these massive forest exports, local economies for hundreds of miles upstream of Mobile Bay are suffering

continued on next page

Five Arrested in Mobile Port Protest

Boats, Planes & Export Cranes...

by John Johnson

In the predawn hours of December 19, 1995, a small team of sleep-deprived activists climbed onto the loading dock of Chipco, Kimberly-Clark/Scott Paper's export facility at the port of Mobile, Alabama.

Equipped with hard-hats, U-locks,

climbing gear, and a huge banner, we ascended the 100 foot gantry crane with the intention of shutting it down for as long as possible. As we climbed, the crane continued to load the Southeast's native hardwood forests (in the form of wood chips) onto a freight ship.

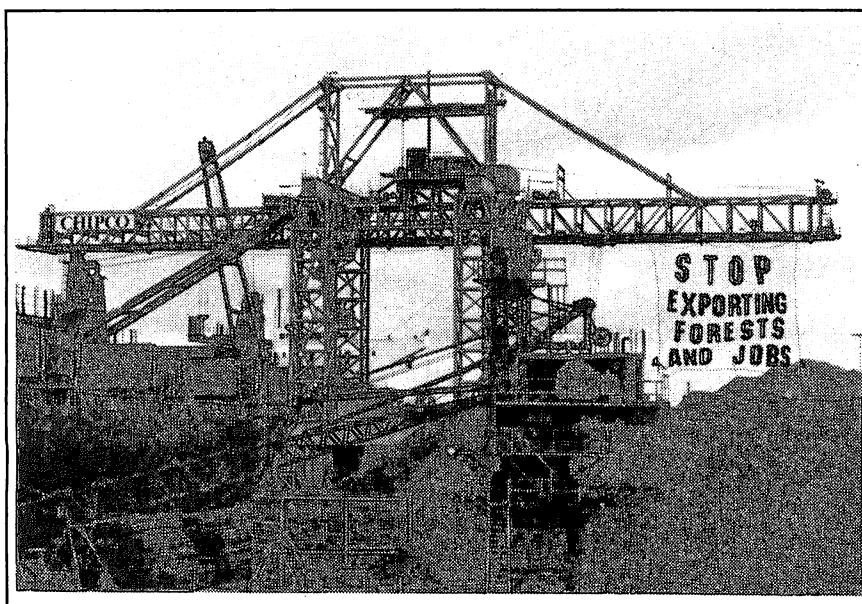
We began to unfurl the South's largest protest banner on the back arm of the crane. Some of us paused briefly to watch the crane scoop up a load of chips and dump it in the hold of the *Hoketsu Hope*,

a Japanese freighter bound for the port of Niigata, Japan. We knew that the multi-national paper corporations would transform our hardwood forests into some ultimately disposable paper product and sell it back on the global market.

Inspired by love for the last wild places and the direct actions of friends across the planet, we were determined that our southern hardwood forests would not be destroyed without a fight. As I climbed to the crane control booth, another activist locked himself to the stairs below to delay security from coming up the crane.

The confused workers shut the crane down. As the banner was dropped, I locked myself inside the crane operator's box with a pair of handcuffs. Soon after, two other protesters rappelled off the crane to secure the bottom of the 50 x 40 foot banner reading: "Stop Exporting Forests and Jobs". The wood chip facility was successfully shut down!

Five protesters were arrested. The action was organized at the 1995 Heartwood Forest Council in West Virginia. Contact Katuah Earth First!, PO Box 281, Chattanooga TN 37401, 423-624-3939, or Native Forest Network-Southeast, 65 Mill Creek, Marshall NC 28753, 704-656-2517, or Broadened Horizons Riverkeeper Project, PO Box 4826, Chattanooga TN 37405, 423-267-3977. The Riverkeepers want to form an anti-chip mill network, and invite participation.



Southeastern forest groups and activists shut down a wood chip export dock in Mobile, Alabama. Photo by L.G. Fletcher.

Southeast Forests

continued from preceding page

adverse impacts. Local hardwood industries are doomed to extinction by corporate trade policies and practices. Chip mills are notorious for the lack of labor needed to run them. They require only 5-10 employees. Compared to the number of workers in hardwood industries like furniture, boat and lumber manufacturing, chip mills provide a fraction of the jobs and undervalue wood resources by removing capital from the forests.

Traditionally, many hardwood forests were the source of timber for smaller-scale sawmills and local manufacturing operations. They were selectively cut, and

logging practices rarely destroyed the structural integrity of the forest. But within the past decade, the drive for fast dollars has turned the industry into one of the most cutthroat in the country. A single chip mill now consumes more hardwood each year than all of the old sawmills combined.

Chip mills are not restricted to the Tennessee River Valley. Rutherford County, North Carolina is slated for chip mills, with a substantial amount of the product to be exported through Wilmington, NC. And a big chip mill being built in Caryville, Tennessee will consume 30-60 acres of forest each day.

But nowhere has the export of raw forest materials and products from the

South exploded faster than Mobile, Alabama. Raw woodchips, wood pulp and whole logs make up 80% of the Port of Mobile's forest exports. These forest resources are unprocessed or extremely low value-added operations more representative of Third World economies.

It does not take a genius to surmise that exporting raw forests eliminates jobs. As in the Northwest, the cycle of depleted resources, increased mechanization and exports of unprocessed logs and chips replays itself while the timber industry laughs all the way to Wall Street.

Edited by GroundWork from a longer and well-documented piece. Contact GW for a copy of the full article.



Forests of the Northeast:

by Anne Petermann, Coordinator,
Native Forest Network Eastern
North America Resource Center

The forests of the northeast US, nearly one hundred years into recovery since they were last butchered, have, in the state of Vermont, come back from being 80% depleted to the point where today the state is 80% forested.

In addition, it has recently been revealed that New England and Quebec are among the few places in the world where forests are growing faster than they are being cut. Combine this with the situation in the western US where there is very little left for the timber industry to log, add to it an insatiable worldwide appetite for woodchips, and we begin to see the peril that once again faces the forests of the northeast.

There are several forest advocacy groups

working to head off this reign of destruction. Many of these groups work in concert through annual Forest Summits and Forest Activist Training Weeks, organized by the Native Forest Network Eastern North American Resource Center to create an overall plan to protect the forests and the

people and wildlife who depend upon them. Some of the campaigns waged by these groups are enumerated below.

Lamb Brook Victory

The 5,500 acre Lamb Brook area of the Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF), located near

Wilmington VT, is home to threatened neo-tropical migratory songbirds and black bears. World renowned black bear biologist Albert Manville stated, "In all my work assessing bear feeding habitat...in North America, I have never seen such a heavily bear-utilized stand of American beech as this one in the Lamb Brook area."

The GMNF Service intends to build three miles of new roads through the heart of this critical area to log approximately two square miles of this remote wild forest.

A coalition of conservation groups sued the Forest Service, and on December 14th, Judge Gavin Murtha ruled in their favor. This ruling enjoined the logging until the GMNF Service conducts a lengthy Environmental Impact Statement. The Forest Service had only done a brief Environmental Assessment concluding that the cutting, road-building and accompanied increase in off-road vehicle

offer the sale in a modified form or as a salvage sale.

Contact Green Mountain Forest Watch, 48 Elliott Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301 or Native Forest Network at the address listed below.

Kearsarge Timber Sale—The Next Lamb Brook?

The White Mountain National Forest (WMNF) is one of New England's finest natural jewels. Yet the U S Forest Service would rather log the forest than protect it. The latest example of this is the proposed Kearsarge North Timber Sale near North Conway, NH. This sale would strip 6.8 million board feet of timber from a 4,700 acre area, and include massive clearcutting and road building. And to add insult to injury, the sale would lose \$340,000 of taxpayer's money.

The endangered area includes a rare, 100-acre grove of old growth hemlock and northern hardwoods—possibly the largest stand of old-growth hemlock on the WMNF. This is an area that should be considered for wilderness protection, not industrial logging.

Please write to the White Mountain National Forest Service and your members of Congress. Tell them that the Kearsarge North area should be protected for possible wilderness designation; Clearcutting should not be taking place on the White Mountain National Forest; and the Forest Service should conduct public hearings on this proposed timber sale.

WMNF, Chuck Meyers, Acting Forest Supervisor, 719 Main Street, Lancoonia, NH 03246 (603) 528-8721.

For more information, please contact RESTORE at PO Box 440, Concord, MA 01742 (508) 287-0320.

Mount Blue Campaign

In the early 1990's the state of Maine traded standing timber with an estimated worth of \$400,000 to the Timberlands Corporation for a piece of land worth roughly \$3,000. With only 4% of the state of Maine designated as public land, this sale was a travesty from the start.

The Mount Blue coalition was formed and activists braved the treacherous Maine



Mount Blue (Maine) activist chained to front doors of United Timber, home of Timberlands, Inc., is cut loose by authorities during a protest at the premises. Photo by Orin Langelle/NFN.

use would not significantly impact wildlife.

"This is a great victory for Vermont's black bears, songbirds and wild places, and a resounding defeat for the Forest Service's plan to clearcut New England's National Forests," said Steve Saltonstall, lawyer for the conservation groups.

The battle may not be over, however, as the Forest Service may still eventually



Endangered Species?

winters to slow down the logging. Activists performed civil disobedience at the logging site as well as at Timberlands headquarters. The campaign went on for two successive winters until Timberlands contract ran out. The Mount Blue Coalition is currently suing Timberland's for violations of the contract.

This campaign helped bring together the coalition of activists that has remained active and now works against the proposed chipperport on Sears Island.

Sears Island, Maine Threatened by Massive Port

Sears Island is the largest uninhabited island on the coast of Maine. Located in Penobscot Bay, it provides an incredibly diverse combination of freshwater and marine habitats, including invaluable, undisturbed wetlands, and is home to 70% of Maine's water and wetland species. The island also provides critical eelgrass bed nurseries, making it an important stop along the flyway from the Arctic to South America, and includes a ledge which seals use for resting.

The Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) wants to build a cargo terminal on Sears Island. Sears Island wetlands would be filled for cargoport construction, devastating wildlife. More frightening, however, are

the impacts the port would have on Maine's forests. MDOT consultants say the port must export 600,000 tons of woodchips per year to be economically viable.

Most recently, a temporary victory for the island and its inhabitants was won; The Army Corps of Engineers denied the

statement, however, and the island is still in danger. Demand this port project be abandoned on this island of such incredible ecological value and diversity.

• Brian Nutter, Project Director, MDOT, State House Station 16, Augusta, ME 04333

• Colonel Earle Richardson, Army

Corps of Engineers, 424 Tapelo Road, Waltham, MA, 02254

• John de Villars, Administrator, EPA New England, JFK Federal Bldg, Boston, MA 02203

Hydro-Quebec Great Whale Project Still a Threat

In winter 1994, the Quebec government postponed Hydro-Quebec's massive Great Whale Project indefinitely.

However, just

hours after Quebec Premier Parizeau's announcement, his Chief Aide stated, "We are giving Hydro-Quebec no instructions to stop their preparation of the project".

Luis Eguren, formerly of the Grand Council of the Crees, explains; "This has been one of H-Q's preferred strategies; delay a project while working through a review, get the authorization...then, when the time is right...start building. Any opposition at that time is futile."

The Great Whale Project which would destroy immense areas of boreal forest and wetland areas throughout northern Quebec is not dead until it is permanently canceled, and any Environmental Assessment process halted.

Contact Native Forest Network, Eastern North American Resource Center, PO Box 57, Burlington, VT 05402, 802-863-0571.



Two Earth First!ers occupied the University of Vermont's water tower for seven hours in Burlington, VT during the INternational Day of Actions Against Hydro-Quebec in 1994. Photo by Anne Petermann/NFN.

MDOT a permit to build the cargo terminal on Sears Island, under the current design. The MDOT is still preparing their final environmental impact

Earth First! Round River Rendezvous June 30-July 7, 1996

The Earth First! Rendezvous is a chance for Earth First!ers and their allies to get together, strategize, and map out new campaigns. For more info, contact the Earth First! Journal, P.O. 1415, Eugene OR 97440, or call the Earth First! hotline, 510-848-8724.



97440, or call the Earth First! hotline, 510-848-8724.

Native Forest Network

Forest Activist Training June 10-16, 1996 in Vermont

Native Forest Network hosts its third annual activist training June 10-16 in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. Covers nonviolent civil disobedience; legal realities; philosophies of activism; plus skills such as climbing, orienteering and first aid.

GroundWork's cover photo of an activist mounting a tripod comes from last year's training. To get involved, call NFN, 802-863-0571.



Challenging Corporate Forestry

by Karen Pickett

So close and yet so far...

We have never been closer to seeing an innovative "debt-for-nature" swap protecting thousands of acres of these ancient redwoods. Yet, until it becomes a reality, the big trees are threatened, and Pacific Lumber (PL) has done nothing if not accelerate the pillage.

In a September 15, 1995 rally, over 2400 people showed their support for Headwaters Forest at the Pacific Lumber mill in Carlotta, California. Following the rally, 264 people, ranging from teenagers to elders in their 70's were arrested in a mass civil disobedience action. This constituted the largest mass arrest in the history of the forest preservation movement in the U.S.

The rally and civil disobedience protested PL's plans to take advantage of a salvage logging loophole allowing removal of trees without environmental and public review. The Headwaters rally was the biggest outcry in Northern California since Redwood Summer in 1990.

Debt-For-Nature Now! Pursuing Corporate Lawbreakers

In a breakthrough boost to the decade-long struggle to save the world's largest unprotected ancient redwood

forest, an unlikely savior, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) filed a \$250 million claim against corporate raider and Maxxam CEO, Charles Hurwitz for his part in the \$1.6 billion failure of the

Texas S&L, United Savings Assoc. of Texas (USAT). Then, in a parallel claim, the Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) filed against Hurwitz, Maxxam Corp. and others for their role in the S&L debacle. What does an S & L failure in Texas have to do with an old growth redwood forest located a few miles east of Eureka on California's northcoast? It's a long and intriguing story. Headwaters, which includes the never-logged 3000 acre virgin grove along with smaller virgin groves and residual old growth, is owned by PL, which

is wholly owned by the Hurwitz-controlled Maxxam Corp. In 1988, USAT, another Maxxam controlled company, failed, leaving taxpayers to bear the burden of \$1.6 billion in bailout costs. For the last four years, voices as diverse as



Equipment lockdown at September 1995 protest at Headwaters Grove.

Photo by someone who got away....

Earth First! and the Sierra Club have been calling for a debt-for-nature swap that would put Headwaters Forest into federal hands, to satisfy the government's claims against Maxxam. Headwaters Forest, an asset controlled by the same parties that controlled USAT, could be offered to the government to settle their S&L debts. Once under federal control, Headwaters could receive protected status.

The FDIC and OTS actions lay the foundation for a debt-for-nature swap, unprecedented in the US, but used in other countries to settle debts and protect biological resources. It could set a very

continued on page 59



2400 people rallied at Pacific Lumber's Carlotta, California mill to demand a debt-for-nature swap to save thousands of acres of ancient redwoods. Photo by Karen Pickett, September 1995.



More Forest News

- Nuxalk and allies work to save Great Coast Rainforest — page 44
- Struggle at Clayoquot Sound continues — page 46
- Forests on Indigenous lands — page 19

Forest Activists Meet Pacific Northwest Threat

Over 100 people were arrested in actions protesting the sale and logging of the Sugarloaf area of the Siskiyou in Oregon last fall. Some sat in platforms in trees slated to be cut. Some were close to the logging operations, in violation of the "special closure" of the forest. And others crossed the closure boundary at the gate.

Boise Cascade carried out the clearcutting operation after obtaining government sanction for their destruction of the Sugarloaf area.

As the U.S. government releases more old growth and roadless areas to the timber corporations, more protests are planned. Primary targets of the clearcut industry include China Left, old growth areas adjacent to Oregon Caves National

Monument; Everclear, the first roadless sale area in the Siskiyous; and Warner Creek, a roadless area now threatened with logging.

The logging of Sugarloaf was discouraging, admitted protester Kayla Starr. But with more struggles ahead, that was not the final word. "Each individual who demonstrated, boycotted Boise Cascade products, got arrested or supported those who were arrested, has furthered their training and

commitment to the movement. We have experienced our own power to stand up and take actions for our beliefs, we have set examples for others. We have developed our skills for the next campaign. This is not the end.... It is the beginning."

For more info, contact the Siskiyou Project, 503-592-4459.

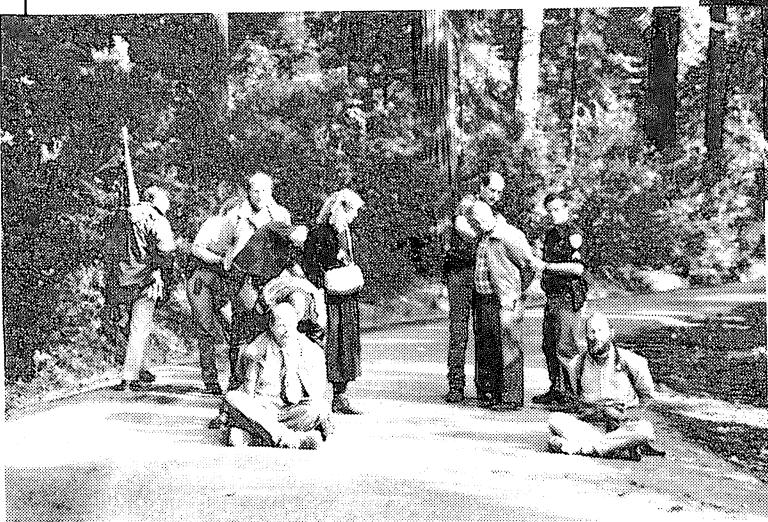


above: Hundreds of people jam into the road in front of the Sugarloaf enclosure gate to support arrestees.

left: Arrests inside the enclosure.

below: Log exports, Longview, Washington, early 1990's. Two other ships were also being loaded, and two more were lined up waiting. This goes on day and night.

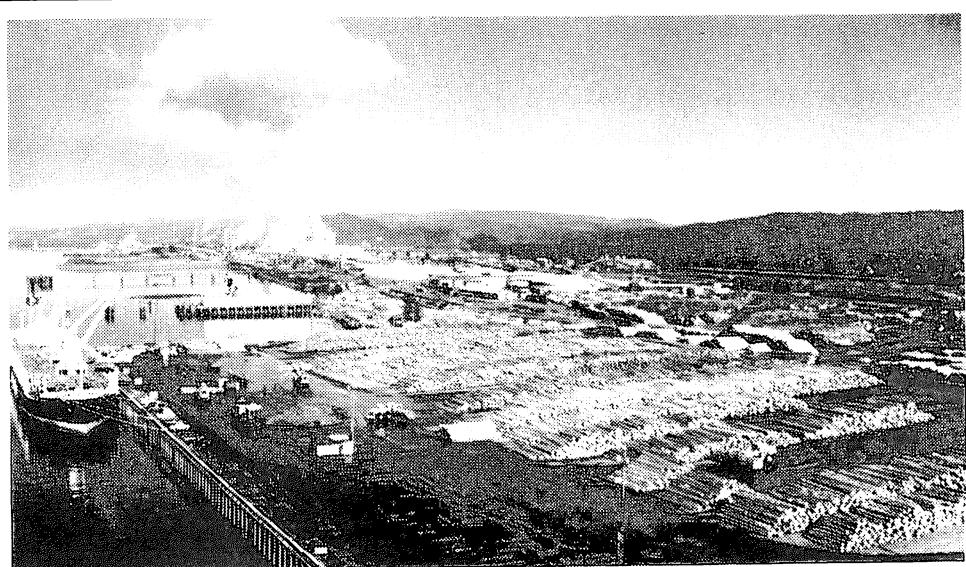
Photos by Elizabeth Feryl/Environmental Images



Witness Against Lawless Logging (WALL)

WALL is planning an Ancient Forest Week to kick off a spring mobilization against salvage logging, culminating in a protest rally April 20th somewhere in the Pacific Northwest.

For more information call the WALL Hotline at 800-283-5926



Ecoforestry Institute

The Ecoforestry Institute seeks to educate and train a new generation of forest owners, managers and workers in the philosophy, science and practices of ecologically responsible forestry. One of EI's goals is to develop a network of ecoforestry practitioners to sustain and restore fully functioning forest ecosystems while harvesting a range of products in ways which sustain forest workers and their local communities. EI's work includes:

- Mountain Grove Ecoforestry Demonstration Forest and Center — EI is working with the Mountain Grove Center, 420 acres in southern Oregon, to develop a demonstration forest for the public to see ecoforestry in practice. It is scheduled to open in fall 1996.
- Education and Training Programs — an 8-month Certificate Program for Practicing Ecoforesters, including an apprenticeship.

Contact 785 Barton Road, Glendale OR 97442, 503-832-2785.

Alternative Sources of Paper

Hemp

Hemp is a natural, low-impact substitute for a variety of materials, including wood, cotton and petroleum.

- Hemp World is an international journal of the hemp industry, covering alternative papers, clothing, and other materials. Box 315, Sebastopol CA 95473, 707-887-7639.
- Carol Miller writes a regular column on hemp affairs in the Sonoma County Free Press, PO Box 863, Occidental CA 95465, \$10/year.
- High quality "Traditional Bond" tree-free paper is available from Talking Leaves, a deep ecology magazine. The paper is 10% hemp, 10% esparto grass, 60% agricultural byproducts, and 20% post-consumer product. Good for copiers and laser printers. Contact the Deep Ecology Education Project, 800-309-2974.



Forest Rally in Alabama

May 24-27, 1996

The 1996 National Forest Reform Rally will be held in Alabama on May 24-27. This is one of the annual gatherings for forest activists, and will feature speakers, workshops, and discussion sessions as well as opportunities to hike in the Bankhead National Forest. Contact Lamar Marshall, Bankhead Monitor, P.O. Box 117, Moulton, AL 35650, 205-974-7578.

Resources

Logs, Lies & Videotape

The highlight of this 12 minute tape is an interview with Dr. Arthur Partridge debunking the phony "forest health crisis." The tape includes scenes from protests against logging of Ancient Forests in Oregon, and damage from "salvage" logging in Idaho. Contact Green Fire Productions, 541-486-4070

Kenaf

Kenaf (rhymes with giraffe) is a fast-growing African plant that can reach a height of 15 feet in 5 months and can produce 8-10 tons of biomass per acre. The U.S. paper industry's own studies confirm that an acre of kenaf can produce 5 times as much pulp in a year as an acre of trees — at half the cost.

- Kenaf paper is available from the Greenpeace Catalog: 800-916-1616.
- International Kenaf Association publishes a newsletter and is a major clearinghouse for kenaf information: Bob Bledsoe, 107 Depot St, Ladonia TX 75449, 903-367-7216.
- Sample packets of kenaf seeds with a Grower's Guide may be ordered from Earth Island Journal for \$3. Funds go to their Green Pages Fund which supports tree-planting projects abroad: 300 Broadway, Suite 28, San Francisco, CA 94133, 415-788-3666.

Wildlands Project Report

The conservation quarterly Wild Earth is producing a special report about the Wildlands Project, which is working to map and implement an interconnected network of ecological reserves in the Americas. Sample copies of the report, *The First Thousand Days of the Next Thousand Years: The Wildlands Project at Three*, is available for \$3.

Contact: Wild Earth, POB 45S, Richmond, VT 05477. 802-434-4077.

Southern Forests Video

"Southbound," a documentary by Doug Hawes-Davis, takes viewers to the forests of the southeastern United States where multi-national wood product companies, with chipmills in tow, are encroaching on these recovering forests. The video demonstrates the controversy surrounding the introduction of chipmills to this region. The story unfolds as biologists, foresters, attorneys, sawmill owners, chipmill operators, and residents of the area explain the situation from their various perspectives.

The forests of America's south and east were known as the "Great Forest." "Southbound" lays the framework for the fight to protect and restore this region to its natural grandeur.

\$20 ppd for individuals and non-profit organizations, \$50 for universities, agencies and businesses. Ecology Center Productions, 101 E. Broadway, Rm. 602, Missoula, Montana 59802. For information concerning public broadcast call Doug Hawes-Davis at (406) 728-5733.

Wild Alabama

To help stem the tide of deforestation looming over the southern states, Alabama-based Bankhead Monitor has expanded the circulation of its magazine throughout the entire state of Alabama as well as several surrounding states. The magazine has been renamed "Wild Alabama" to reflect the broader coverage. Bankhead Monitor has revived the call for more wilderness in the east. Contact: Lamar Marshall, Bankhead Monitor, P.O. Box 117, Moulton, AL 35650, 205-974-POST.

Forest Activist Groups

Three groups in particular helped to create this theme section on forests:

Earth First! is a loose-knit network of activists working on a variety of environmental concerns, with foci being forest, land use, and biodiversity issues. The guiding philosophical base is deep ecology, and the tactics focus on direct action. There are local Earth First! groups around the U.S. and in several other countries. The excellent *Earth First! Journal* carries a full list of local contacts, in addition to global coverage of environmental activism. Subscriptions are \$25/year, Box 1415, Eugene OR 97440.

Native Forest Network is a global autonomous collective of forest activists, indigenous peoples, conservation biologists, and non-governmental organizations, dedicated to protecting the world's remaining native forests. It is based on consensus, nonviolence, non-hierarchy, non-patriarchy and non-discrimination. NFN members are at the forefront of several key struggles covered in these pages. Contact NFN Eastern North America, PO Box 57, Burlington VT 05402, 802-863-0571.

Save America's Forests is the name both of an organization and a magazine. SAF is a nationwide campaign to protect and restore America's wild and natural forests. SAF works to improve the political strength of citizen groups, and to represent their interests to the federal government. SAF, 4 Library Court SE, Washington DC 20003, 202-544-9219.



Hundreds of grassroots are working in every ecosystem and state. Among those which invite your participation are:

Heartwood, Rt. 3, Box 402, Paoli, IN 47454, 812-723-2430

RACE, Rt. 1, Box 313, Brookport, IL 62910, 618-893-2997

Project Lighthawk, Box 8163, Santa Fe,

NM 87504, 505-982-9656, fax 984-8381

Mendocino Environmental Center, 106 W. Standley St., Ukiah, CA 95482, 707-468-1660, fax 462-2370

EPIC, P.O. Box 397, Garberville, CA 95542, 707-923-2931, fax 923-4210

Western Ancient Forest Campaign, 1400 16th St., Washington DC 20036

Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project, PO Box 3141, Asheville NC 28802, 704-258-2667

Rest the West, P.O. Box 10065, Portland, OR 97210

Broader Horizons River Keeper Project, PO Box 4826, Chattanooga TN 37405, 423-267-3977

Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, P.O. Box 11615, Eugene, OR 97440

Rainforest Action Network, 450 Sansome St., Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94111, 415-398-4404, fax 398-2732

Bankhead Monitor, PO Box 117, Moulton AL 35650, 205-974-7678

Northwest Ecosystem Alliance, P.O. Box 2813, Bellingham, WA 99165, 206-671-9950, fax 671-8429

Native Forest Council, P.O. Box 2171, Eugene, OR 97402

Alliance for the Wild Rockies, PO Box 8731, Missoula, MT 59807, (406)721-5420

Citizens for Environmental Quality, Rt. 1, Box 179 E, Potlach, ID 83855

Ecology Center, 101 E. Broadway, Room 602, Missoula, MT 59802, 406-728-5733

Shawnee Defense Fund, Rte 1, Box 313, Brookport IL 62910

Forest Guardians, 616 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, NM 87501

Utah Wilderness Association, 455 East 400 S. #306, Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Friends of Clayoquot, Box 489, Tofino, B.C. V0R 2Z0

Forest Action Network, P.O. Box 625, Bella Coola, B.C. V0T 1C0 Canada, 604-799-5800

Special thanks for help on this theme section to Greg at FAN, and Jill and Ramon of the Cove/Mallard coalition!



Noble Creek blockade at Cove/Mallard, 2/95. See page 8-9. Photo by Bill Haskins.

Siskiyou Project, P.O. Box 220, Cave Junction, OR 97523, 503-592-4459

Headwaters, P.O. Box 729, Ashland, OR 97520, 503-482-4459, fax 482-7282

Cove Mallard Coalition, P.O. 8251, Missoula MT 59807, 406-549-3978.

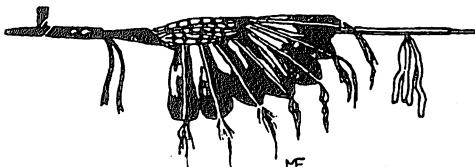
Institute for Sustainable Forestry, Box 1580, Redway, CA 95560, 707-923-4719

Oregon Natural Resources Coalition, 1161 Lincoln St., Eugene, OR 97401, 503-223-9001, fax 223-9009

Blue Mt. Biodiversity Project, HCR 82, Fossil, OR 97830, 503-468-2028

California Wilderness Coalition, 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, CA 95616, 916-758-0380





Native American News

Round Valley Reservation Rocked by Racism, Repression and Violence

by Karen Pickett

When the repeating crack-crack-crack of automatic weapons sliced through the moonlit night on a tiny, winding dirt road on the edge of the Round Valley Indian Reservation, the bullets that flew marked a turning point in this community. For some, it was the last straw in a long history of genocide and forced relocation, followed by racist police policies in modern times. For Leonard Acorn Peters, a Wylacki man in the wrong place at the wrong time, it was his last breath.

Tensions came to a head on April 14, 1995. Trouble started with a shooting in the town of Covelo, California that left Gene Britton dead. County sheriffs swarmed in, arresting two people, and conducted a search for a third, Arylis Peters, by setting up an ambush on a dirt road. What happened next has been hotly disputed. According to residents' observations and journalists' research, the deputies fired on two men who approached the stake-out, two men who were not suspects. Leonard was in front and was killed instantly. Shortly thereafter, Deputy Bob Davis took a bullet to the head. Police have accused Leonard's companion on the dirt road, Eugene Bear Lincoln, of firing that shot. Bear quickly disappeared in the midst of the gunfire aimed at him, running for his life. But testimony given that same night by Deputy Dennis Miller makes it seem plausible that Davis was killed by a police bullet. The behavior of authorities following that night that three people died was consistent with the covering up of mistakes, bad decisions and the frantic targeting of an Indian man as a cop killer.

As April 15 dawned, Round Valley found itself occupied territory. Under the guise of conducting their search for Bear Lincoln, police terrorized the community with warrantless searches and strong-arm tactics. All the while, police made it clear to the victims of this harassment that they could blame Bear, stating to the press at one point, "We know someone's hiding him... We're going to keep being a thorn

in their side until they cough him up."

Genocide and forced relocation

Tensions between Native American residents of the valley and authorities have deep roots. The Round Valley, a beautiful and fertile valley, is almost perfectly symmetrical and ringed by snow-dusted peaks. It is the ancestral home of the Yuki people, who lived in harmony with the earth until the mid-1800s, when the U.S. government began its program of genocide on California's north coast. The Round Valley Indian Reservation was established in 1853, when the remainder of six tribes in addition to the Yuki — Wylacki, Pomo, Pitt River, Little Lake, Concow and Nomolacki — were all forced into a portion of Yuki territory, along with Indian-hating white settlers. Theft, fraud and bad faith deals have shrunk reservation lands to a mere 33,000 acres, with a population of approximately 1200 tribal residents.

This Reservation, the second largest in California, while rich in forests and rivers, is a pocket of poverty, unemployment, chronic illness and despair. The Louisiana Pacific mill in Covelo was a principal employer until it shut down in 1990, finding cheaper labor in Mexico. Round Valley is also a place of hope,

where many still respect and keep alive the traditional ways of the spiritual people who went before them. The authorities and mainstream media are quick to characterize problems as stemming from intra-community disputes, or "feuds" between families or individuals. Those differences do exist, and often are a matter of "traditionalists vs. assimilationists," i.e., those who seek to restore or keep alive native traditional practices and a native spiritual belief, and those who seek to join the American mainstream.

Racist police policies at root of present tensions

But residents point to racist practices and selective enforcement of the law as being behind tension and violence. County deputies, residents claim, have sidestepped the issues of violence, turning their backs on beatings and shootings that have gone unprosecuted, and pounced on certain members of the community for less serious violations.

While others mourned Leonard Acorn Peters — father of seven children, the youngest three of whom lived under his care — Bear Lincoln agonized in isolation over the death of his lifelong

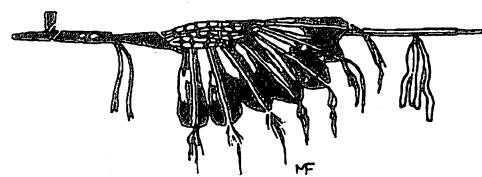
continued on page 54

Northern States Power has offered to buy other land for the **Prairie Island Mdewakanton Dakota Band**, on whose current reservation the Prairie Island nuclear plant sits. In return, the band would have to agree to allow Northern States Power to continue to keep the plant running for another 23 years. The band is considering what to do. Info: *Prairie Island Coalition Against Nuclear Storage* (PICANS), 612-333-5807.

The **Native American Indian People's Conference** is an ongoing group meeting in the Seattle area to discuss "Peoples Issues of the 1990's.... And Beyond!" The group is a grassroots forum for Indigenous people to talk about human issues such as health, sovereignty, enterprise and self-determination, poverty, and more. The group aims to tie together traditional and modern ways.

Started two years ago by Mary Yarbrough, a member of the **Tohono O'odham Nation** (Arizona), the Conference relies on community resources, and welcomes support and contributions. Contact 12406 NE 130th Ct. #J-201, Kirkland WA 98034, 206-821-8940.

Native American News



Indian Forests, the Endangered Species Act, and Endangered Cultures....

by Winona LaDuke, White Earth

Leroy Jackson, a Dine (Navajo) man who dedicated much of his life to protecting the Chuska Mountain forests, died mysteriously in the fall of 1993. His body was found in his van after he disappeared during a business trip in New Mexico.

For the previous three years, Jackson, with the Dine CARE group, had worked to confront logging interests in the Chuska Mountains, hoping to turn the Navajo Forest Products Industry towards more sustainable forestry practices, particularly in sacred and cultural areas such as the Chuskas — the Male Deity of Dine religion.

At the time of his death, Jackson was scheduled to fly to Washington DC to argue against Bureau of Indian Affairs policy which would have exempted the Dine Tribal Council from logging prohibitions to protect the Mexican Spotted Owl.

Jackson's death brings many Native forestry issues to light, particularly the internal battle within many reservations between economic pressures, and traditional cultural practices and values. These struggles will play out with increasing intensity as the value of Indian timber in a shrinking supply market adds new pressures to the ecology and cultural fabric of Indian Country.

Between the U.S. and Canada, there are many trees on land to which Native people possess unextinguished Aboriginal Title. On U.S. reservations alone stand some 56 billion board feet of Indian timber — comprising 15 million acres, or a little less than one-third of all reservation holdings today.

There is a battle — make no mistake about it. Throughout Indian Country, lines will be drawn, and ecosystems may be transformed. And tribal sovereignty will play centrally in the conflict, as tribes decide to exercise their rights to cut their

forests, and, for instance, circumvent the Endangered Species Act to cut their old growth.

Or, Native Nations may decide to

It was the bodies of our ancestors that fertilized these trees, and their spirit and strength lives on in the forest. This is why the land is sacred. It provided for us and protected us and we want to keep it that way. The forest is sacred.

Eyak Traditional Chief and elder Marie Smith Jones

utilize their tribal sovereignty and build a sustainable forestry program based on whole-cultural and ecosystem management. The choices are clearly ours.

Some frontlines of the conflict

• Clayoquot Sound, Lil Watt Territory, and Gitsan Wetsuetan Territory, British Columbia. In BC, 1000 square miles of forest are logged every year. In about 15 years, all the commercial coastal

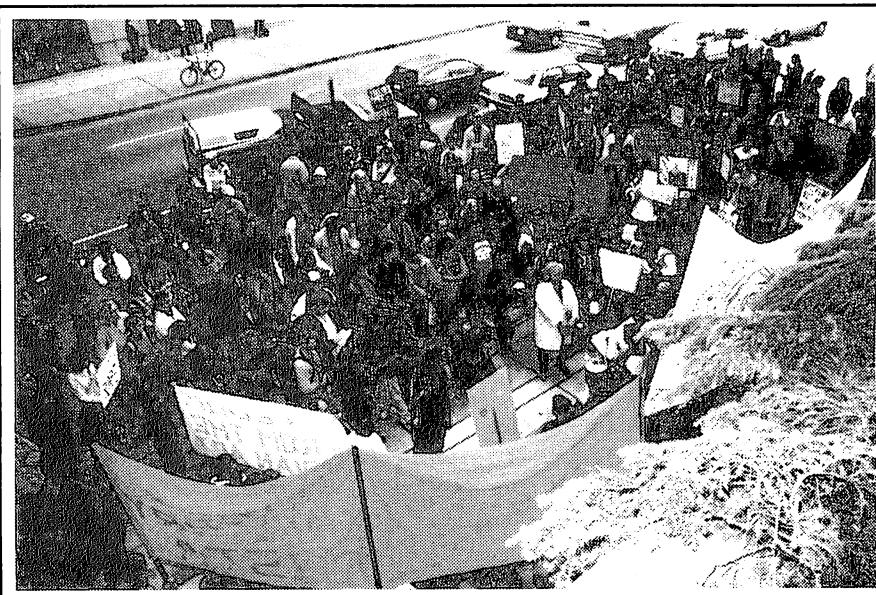
old growth will be gone except for a small amount protected by "parks". Members of the Nuu Chah Nulth nation and their allies unequivocally oppose clearcutting. (See page 46.)

• Cree Territory, Saskatchewan and Lubicon Cree Territory, Alberta. In 1986, provincial governments gave rights to thousands of acres of lands inhabited by these tribes to multinational logging corporations.

• Enola Hills, Columbia River. For several years, Columbia River fishing people and other Native people from the region have worked to stop logging at Enola Hills, a sacred area. The U.S. Forest Service had sought to clearcut the area, but backed down.

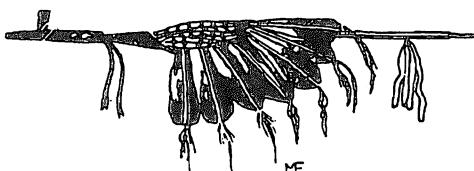
• Northern Minnesota. Six timber-rich reservations lie within the border of this state, as do several proposed pulp and

continued on page 54



The Nuxalk people and their allies are fighting to prevent clearcutting of Indigenous land in the Great Coast Rainforest of Canada. Story on page 44. Photo by Keith Pootliss.

Native American News



Innu women are at the forefront of their communities' struggle toward decolonization and reclamation of the **Innu homeland in Northern Quebec**. They have been the backbone of the nonviolent campaign against low-level flying. Three women from the Utshimassit community were jailed last year for expelling the RCMP from their island.

The Sheshatshit Innu Women's Group is preparing for a renewal of the battle over low-level flying, as well as with the multi-national mining companies that have invaded their land. As the struggle is necessarily related to domestic issues of abuse, childcare, and economic development for women, their goal is to establish a women's cooperative, day care facilities, as well as a base for conducting political campaigns.

The Innu Women's Group needs help with fundraising and material aid for their actions. Exchanges with women's groups have been extremely helpful.

Please contact the Innu Women's Group, c/o Innu Nation, PO Box 119, Sheshatshit, Labrador A0P 1M0. Donations payable to Innu Women's Walk. Or contact Friends of Nitassinan, PO Box 804, Burlington VT 05402, 802-425-3820.

[See *GroundWork #5* for background information.]



The Skokomish Tribe of the Olympic Peninsula area of Washington state, is opposing the licensing of Tacoma's Cushman Hydroelectric Project. The tribe is working to restore the Skokomish River watershed, and has proposed a plan which could provide power for Tacoma while respecting and restoring the environment.

For information, or to obtain a draft Environmental Impact Statement, contact Vic Martino, Skokomish Tribe Project Manager, 8424 NE Beck Road, Bainbridge Island WA 98110, 206-842-5386.



Fort Mojave Tribe Fights Nuke Waste Dump — page 37

Traditional Dine' (Navajo) continue to resist both strip mining and government relocation programs. Peabody Coal is mining the Black Mesa area of Dine' land in Northern Arizona, and has been digging up ancestral graves on the site.

Now the Dine' Alliance, a group of traditional Navajo, are appealing the renewal of Peabody Coal's mining lease. A decision is imminent, and support is needed. Contact Dine' Alliance, PO Box 810, Pinon AZ 86510, 502-607-1449.

Resources

America's Eagle is an outstanding monthly magazine of news about and of interest to Native Americans and their allies. Extensive reporting on nuclear and toxic waste issues, "gaming" operations on Native lands, legislation affecting Indigenous Peoples, and more. Subscriptions are \$24/year, \$18 for students, from Partners in the Environment, PO Box 292, Mt. Vernon, VA 22121.

On Indian Land is an excellent compendium of news and analysis on Indigenous issues, published quarterly by Support for Native Sovereignty. SNS is a Puget Sound area group working to support Native American land struggles, religious rights, political prisoners, and other issues. SNS welcomes articles, artwork, and other submissions. Yearly subscriptions are \$10 individual, \$20 for institutions and international. On Indian Land/SNS, PO Box 2104, Seattle WA 98111, 206-525-5086.

Resource packets on key Native American issues are also available from Support for Native Sovereignty:

- Big Mountain
- Western Shoshone Tribe
- Sacred Sites
- Native American religious Freedom
- "In Total Resistance" (writings by Native political prisoners)

\$5 each, from SNS. See above address

The Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center, the primary project of the Native American Community Board, located on the **Yankton Sioux Reservation in Lake Andes, South Dakota**, needs your support. For donations of \$15 or more, you will receive *Wicozanni Wowapi*, The "Good Health Newsletter," which covers a wide range of issues pertaining to Indigenous Peoples.

Write to PO Box 572, Lake Andes SD 57356.



In February 1995, **Loretta Hill**, a young Klamath/ Paiute woman being held at the Oregon Women's Correctional Center Isolation Segregation Unit, requested spiritual support from a representative of her Paiute tribe. Loretta was denied her original request for ceremony and traditional medicine (cedar and sage) and instead given medication (Prozac) by the prison doctors and returned to the general population. Within two weeks, Loretta was returned to the isolation unit facing charges of felony assault and possession of a weapon.

Nash Araiza, a Paiute, is a State of Oregon Department of Corrections Spiritual Advisor to Native American prisoners. Nash believes that the medication was a direct influence on Loretta's actions, and the denial of her spiritual needs was a critical factor leading to her present situation. To this date, Loretta has not been allowed the ceremonies guaranteed by the Religious Freedom Act and the First Amendment.

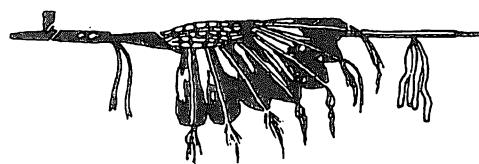
Send support letters to: Loretta Hill, SID #8541159, Oregon Women's Correctional Center, 2809 State St., Salem OR 97310-0500.

Attorney Barbara Creel may be contacted at Native American Program, Oregon Legal Services: 1-800-546-0534 or (503) 223-9483.



Western Shoshone Nation co-sponsors Test Site action — see page 34.

Native American News



Indigenous Environmental Network Hosts Annual Gathering

The Indigenous Environmental Network will hold its 7th Annual Protecting Mother Earth Conference June 13-16, 1996 at Cherokee, North Carolina, traditional territory of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

"Our Rivers are Life" is the theme of the Conference, which offers Native community-based workshops in areas of environmental protection, traditional ecological knowledge, natural resource management, protection of endangered species, sustainable development, community based organizing, and networking. Additional sessions on the links between health and the environment will focus on dioxins, toxics and radioactive poisoning of Indigenous Peoples. The Conference welcomes displays and demonstrations that promote solutions, pollution prevention and ecological restoration.

The Eastern Cherokee Defense League reports that the Eastern Band of Cherokee People, who call themselves "Ani-a-wiya" or "The Principal People," are faced with a history of ecological destruction from pulp and paper production, logging, tourism, copper mining and nuclear industry. These developments have resulted in contamination of their air, including acid rain; poisoning of their rivers; and loss of fish, animal and plants species. They are concerned about the future of the Ani-a-wiya.

The Protecting Mother Earth Conference is hosted by the Eastern Cherokee Defense League. The Cherokee territory is located at the base of the Great Smokey Mountains National Park, west of Asheville, North Carolina. The outdoor gathering will be held in the Big Cover community along the Oconaluftee River.

The Conference is a camp-out with no conference fees. Donations will be appreciated. Meals will be provided but bring utensils, tent and bedding. Nearby motel listings are available from the office. Travel scholarships may be provided.

Contact IEN Conference Office, Box 2259, Cherokee NC 22719, 704-497-5203.

NECONA Works for Nuke-Free Indian Land

"What kind of a society are we that permits the manufacture of products that cannot be safely disposed of? We must unite as people of the world to stop the nuclear industry that is dividing and contaminating us."

NECONA President Grace Thorpe,
Sac & Fox Tribe

NECONA, the National Environmental Coalition of Native Americans, is a nonprofit educational organization with three goals:

- (1) to oppose efforts to establish "permanent" or "temporary" Nuclear Waste Dumps on Indian Land
- (2) to establish Nuclear Free Zones
- (3) to educate tribal members about the health hazards of radioactivity and transporting nuclear waste on the nation's roads and rails

To date, 17 tribes have declared nuclear free zones: Chickaloon Village Kenaitze; Hopi; White Mountain Apache; Navajo (Chinle High School); Fort Mojave Tribe; Kickapoo; Prairie Island Dakota; Flathead; Western Shoshone; Onondaga Iroquois; Devil's Lake Sioux;

Kaw; Pawnee; Ponca; Sac & Fox; Shoalwater; Red Cliff Band Lake Superior Chippewa.

NECONA networks with Indian and non-Indian environmentalists to develop a grassroots counter-movement to the well-funded efforts of the nuclear industry.

NECONA anti-nuclear resources

"Nuclear Waste Information Kit," \$5

"Radioactive Reservations", a 55-minute 1995 video by Goldhawk Productions. This excellent video includes interviews with members of tribes involved in nuclear negotiations with government and industry. \$23 ppd.

"Wasteland" Video, 15-minute 1995 video produced by NECONA, presents the efforts to keep nuclear waste off Indian Land. \$13 ppd.

"Grace Thorpe" from CBS Sunday Morning, 11/95, presents Grace Thorpe's work to keep nuclear waste off Indian Land. 9 mins. \$13 ppd.

To order, or for more information, contact NECONA, 2213 W. 8th St, Prague OK 74864, 405-567-4297.



This gathering in Seattle demanded that Congress honor its treaties and human rights commitments. Drastic federal budget cuts to Native American programs threaten the health and well-being of many tribes. Photo by Dana Schuerholz, Impact Visuals.



Anti-immigration forces seek to woo environmentalists

Creating an

by Penn Loh, Political Ecology Group

Attacks on the human rights and well-being of immigrants, such as California's Proposition 187, exemplify how the real political and economic causes of our problems are being obscured by scapegoating the least powerful. Real economic, social, and environmental woes are being blamed on immigrants, the poor, and ineffective government. Conservative groups and the Republican Right, led by Pete Wilson and Newt Gingrich, are not the only ones exploiting people's fears and insecurities to produce a climate of hate. Anti-immigrant hysteria is also being created by groups claiming to be environmentalists.

For example, Population-Environment Balance (PEB), Californians for Population Stabilization (CAPS), and Carrying Capacity Network (CCN) recently sponsored a full-page ad in *The Washington Times* (5/10/95) urging President Clinton and members of Congress to solve the "immigration crisis" by enacting a "five-year immigration moratorium with an all-inclusive ceiling of 100,000 persons a year." Negative Population Growth (NPG) has placed full-page ads in *E Magazine* and *Natural History* to convince environmentally-conscious readers that we "must reduce immigration from over one million to 100,000 a year." These groups suggest that reducing immigration will solve environmental problems. They are pitting environmentalists against immigrants at a time when these groups need to be working together.

The Population Control Agenda

The anti-immigrant "greens" are one branch of the population control movement. According to a CCN newsletter (April 1992), "The increase in human numbers poses the ultimate environmental threat.... Since population growth is an environmental issue, a crucial component, immigration, must be recognized as one also." These groups have been actively lobbying mainstream environmental groups, policy makers, and governmental agencies to take a stand against immigration. As a result of pressure from these groups, the Sierra Club was recently paralyzed on the immigration issue; some members threatened to resign if their organization did not take an anti-immigration stand while others threatened to

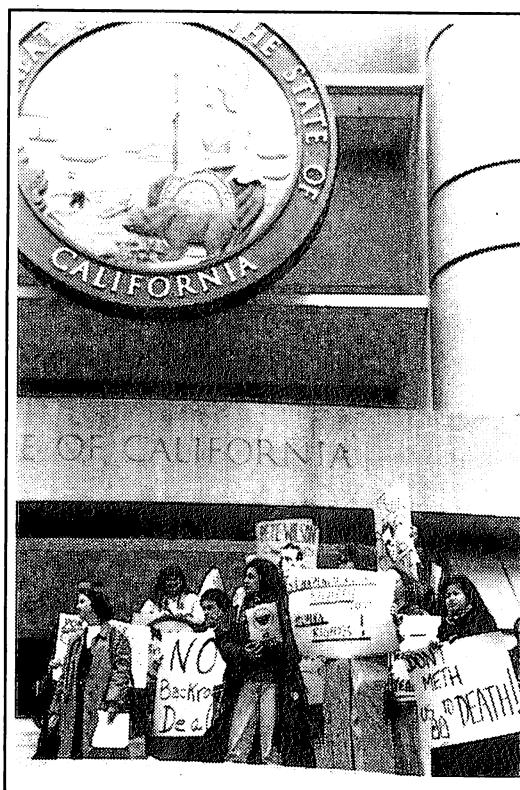
leave if the Club did take such a position. The work of population control groups and their intellectual backers, including Garrett Hardin, Virginia Abernathy, and Paul Ehrlich, have even penetrated supposedly liberal publications like *Atlantic Monthly*. In one recent article, Abernathy claims that material aid to poor countries only exacerbates the population "problem" by falsely enlarging the opportunities of

the poor and therefore encouraging them to have more children.

Of course, similar positions on population and immigration are also being used by the Right. CCN commissioned the much-cited Huddle study on the costs of immigration to taxpayers, which was used to justify Proposition 187. CCN and PEB also provided much of the basis of Peter Brimelow's chapter on the environment

and immigration in his recent anti-immigrant tract *Alien Nation*. Like other anti-immigrationists, these groups deny charges of racism and xenophobia; rather, they claim that they are helping labor unions and African Americans who compete with low-wage immigrant workers! They claim noble intentions of helping to preserve "quality of life" and helping everyone, especially the poor, to learn to live within their own limits.

The anti-immigrant environmental ideology rests on the belief that population growth is the underlying cause of almost every conceivable social problem. Therefore, as the old anti-immigration slogan goes, "whatever your cause, it's a lost cause without population control." Leon Bouvier and Lindsey Grant state in their recent Sierra Club book *How Many Americans* that "Unless population size is reduced, and as rapidly as possible, the nation's present course will eventually threaten not only the quality of life but, in the worst case scenario, the life support system itself. Overcrowded classrooms,



Photos: Immigrant rights advocates, environmental groups, and labor organizations join a Political Ecology Group (PEG) rally at the State Building in San Francisco in January 1996. Photos courtesy of PEG.

Environment of Blame



clogged freeways, unemployment and related cultural clashes, increasingly severe water shortages, environmental decay- all derive to a certain extent from one common cause: over-population."

The population argument is compelling to many because it has been veiled in scientific and quantitative terms. The now-pervasive I=PAT formula, a population- driven model of environmental problems, was developed in the early 1970's by Paul Ehrlich and John Holdren. Almost everyone who takes an environmental science class today learns that environmental Impact equals Population size times Affluence (or goods consumed per person) times Technology (or pollution produced per unit good consumed). Paul and Anne Ehrlich, in *The Population Explosion*, go as far as to say that "we cannot escape from the iron grip of I=PAT."

This equation measures certain aggregate trends but should not substitute for a deeper understanding of relationships between people and the environment. First, it does not allow us to see the very real differences between people. In *Taking Population Out of the Equation*, Patricia writes,

The appeal of I=PAT lies in its simple, physical insight: All people use resources and create waste, and many have children who use more resources and create more waste. Complex, close-grained social and political factors that identify who among the universal 'P' is responsible for what, and the how and why behind much pollution- such as the military, trade imbalances and debt, and female subordination- are outside the scope of the formula.

In I=PAT, no person, group, or process can be pinpointed; everyone is



responsible.

Second, this equation defines people as being inherently harmful to the environment just by being alive. There is no recognition of the roles that people play in transforming the environment in sustainable ways. Third, it locks policy discussion into looking only at these three factors and cuts short discussion of complex social causes.

Population, Eugenics, and Scientific Racism

Concern over population growth comes from diverse political orientations. Narrow, quantitative formulations of the issue are easily used by racists and eugenacists who have long been a part of the population control debate. Even Malthus' Principal of Population was in part an argument against alleviating poverty since the lower classes were doomed to misery by a natural law that functions "absolutely independent of all human regulation." The eugenics movement in the U.S. in the late 19th and early 20th century thought that social ills could be bred away by controlling the reproduction of the "wrong" kind of people- the "mentally deficient," criminals, and those of inferior races or intelligence, including immigrants and the poor. This scientific racism, so eloquently refuted by Stephen Jay Gould and others, is now resurfacing in books like *The Bell Curve*, that argue for the genetic basis of

intelligence and other social behaviors.

The population groups mentioned thus far are not naive do-gooders, but are connected to explicitly racist and xenophobic causes. Biologist Garrett Hardin, a self- dubbed "ecological conservative," sits on the advisory board of CAPS and PEB and on the board of the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR), the leading proponent of Proposition 187 and other attacks on immigrants. The Ehrlichs are advisory board members of CCN and FAIR and list FAIR as a resource for those who want to do something about the population "problem" in their writings.

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The Political Ecology Group (PEG) has issued two excellent "myth-busting" position papers challenging conservative and mainstream misconceptions about population and immigration. *Population & the Environment* and *Immigration & the Environment* are presented in a clear question-and-answer format: the myths and lies of scapegoaters are laid bare and refuted. Do immigrants take jobs away from American workers? Is the U.S. exceeding its "carrying capacity?" Get the facts.

Political Ecology Group (PEG), 965 Mission Suite 700, San Francisco CA 94103, 415-777-3488.



Environmental Justice Issues and Children

SouthWest Organizing Project's intergenerational organizing

by **Frances Lopez, Jennifer Fresquez, Jane Yee, Sofía Martínez, and Cassandra Reid**

The SouthWest Organizing Project's Child/Youth Development Resources (CYDR) members have been working diligently to fulfill the mission statement and campaign criteria of SWOP while formulating an inter-generational, family-based model of organizing.

CYDR provides meaningful activities for children of SWOP members and the community, provides childcare for major SWOP functions, and coordinates CYDR projects and activities.

CYDR's purpose when it was formed in 1985 was to provide child care for SWOP members during meetings and events. Since then, the group has organized cultural and political activities for children and youth, including forming an alliance with the Rebecca Guillén preschool co-op in Nicaragua which resulted in a joint coloring book project.

During this past year, CYDR further expanded its activities by organizing "In People Color," a theater project co-written by youth participants, and a groundwater study project involving students from Pajarito and Armijo elementary schools. The Children's Community Organic Garden flourished with plants and young enthusiastic gardeners under the leadership of Jennifer Fresquez. The gardeners made worm boxes, took field trips to other community gardens, and learned composting, planting, weeding, and harvesting.

The second summer project was Art Adventure, led by Sofía Martínez and

Cassandra Reid, which included tours of socially engaged artists' studios and tile making as well as education about the nuclear cycle in New Mexico. After learning about art and nuclear issues, the kids designed and made a tile mural for installation at SWOP.



Young artists cluster around a tile sculpture created by SWOP's Art Adventure program. Photo courtesy of CYDR/SWOP.

Key Questions

This work led us to ask such questions as "How do we communicate with children and youth about issues of environmental justice?" and "What do children and youth, both inside and outside of SWOP, need from us as an organization?"

We have talked extensively about the need to make hands-on connections as part of organizing around environmental justice issues. We have also remarked that by working with children we are necessarily working with their parents as well. Some of these parents are SWOP members, and others are completely unfamiliar with SWOP and its work. Thus our work involves multi-generational relationships inside and outside the organization with politically active adults as well as adults with no involvement in political issues.

In working with children and with adults who have chosen not to be political activists, we feel that it is important to

weave politics into life with gentleness, inclusiveness, and practicality. For instance, CYDR's pilot gardening project is making political connections through practical education. We visited the Atrisco Land Rights Council garden project, where we learned about traditional gardening, water usage, and water rights. This field trip helped the participants understand the importance of using the land to grow our own food in order to retain water rights. We are also trying to stress the importance of learning skills that promote sustainable life-styles, i.e., growing foods without pesticides.

In a similar manner, "In People Color" helped kids make concrete connections between environmental racism and people's lives through play writing, theater, song, and shadow puppets. Their talents and humor drew sellout crowds on a Thursday and Friday night to the South Broadway Cultural Center. The project appealed to a community larger than just SWOP members and brought in over \$700, half of which was given to the kids who participated.

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Voces Unidas is published by the SouthWest Organizing Project, a multi-racial, multi-issue, community-based organization working "to empower the disenfranchised in the Southwest to realize racial and gender equality, and social and economic justice."

Voces Unidas carries news and photos from such projects as Child & Youth Development Resources, Southwest Network for Environmental & Economic Justice, toxic waste organizing, Native American issues, and more.

You can receive *Voces Unidas* for \$10 per year. Additional donations help sustain the publication. Contact SWOP, 211 10th St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, 505-247-8832.

Youth Rebuild, Revision Detroit



Detroit Summer '96

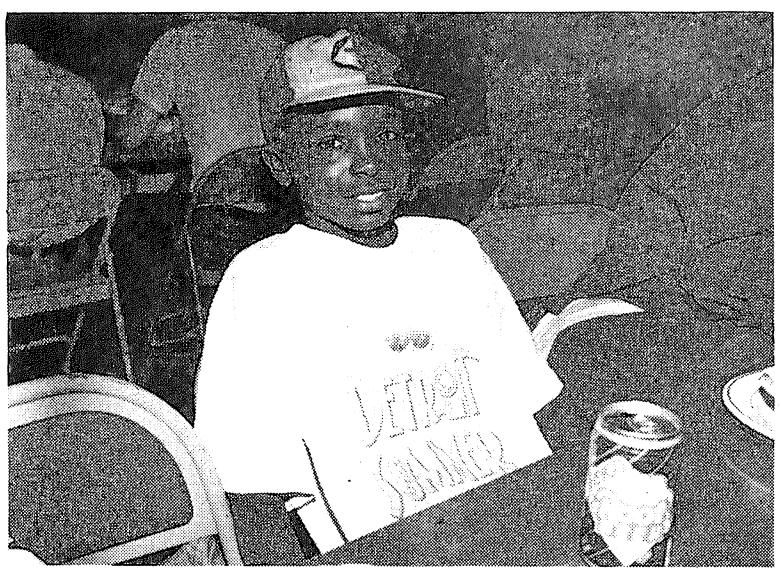
A new spirit is rising in Detroit, rebuilding our city as a place of productivity and community, where people live in harmony with each other and the Earth.

Detroit Summer, now in its fifth year, is a multicultural, intergenerational youth project to rebuild, redefine and respirit Detroit from the ground up. Young people directly participate with community organizations involved in neighborhood-based work.

Detroit Summers have included renovating houses, turning vacant lots into mini-parks, and marching against violence and in commemoration of the hundreds of young people killed in Detroit in recent years.

Youth volunteers from around the country and world are invited to join Detroit residents for three weeks this summer. For dates and information, call 313-832-2904.

Hank Krzciuk



Environmental Justice

continued from preceding page

ed in the project.

Plans for 1996

Our plans for this year include a theater project for the fall which will integrate artists' workshops in set design, mask making, and costume design; a spring water project incorporating oral history, field trips, and cultural activities to teach participants about water usage in New Mexico; and an expanded summer garden program.

We look forward to integrating our work further with other campaigns conducted by SWOP because our fundamental vision goes well beyond just working with children, to a method of organizing which facilitates communication, training, and cultural activities across generations. We believe that movement-building depends on such activities to build long-term trust and bonds between members of a community.

We hope that an organizing method which utilizes multi-generational elements, a hands-on approach, and a culturally nurturing environment will be welcomed as an effective way to work in concert with other methods. We offer these ideas in the interest of promoting dialogue on philosophies and strategies for grassroots organizing.

Reprinted from *Voces Unidas* — see page 24. Thanks to Roberto Roibal.



Street Theatre at Detroit Edison, which operates the Fermi II nuclear power plant, on Hiroshima Day 1995. Part of a series of protests, occupations, and an encampment near Detroit against the Fermi II plant. Here, a "nuclear family" sits down to dinner in the shadow of Fermi II, which proceeds to melt down. Contact 313-241-3914



Appalachian Women's Alliance

The Appalachian Women's Alliance is a grassroots network of women from communities in seven states. The Alliance empowers women to challenge what is wrong in our own lives and in the society around us and offers a larger network through which we can all have a stronger voice and greater impact. Upcoming activities include the 1996 Women's Caravan — "Women Rising Up" for adequate health care, for safety in our homes, for economic justice, for jobs, against racism, for equal opportunities, and for environmental responsibility — which will occur May 24 to June 2. The caravan will begin in Virginia and work its way through West Virginia, across southeastern Ohio, through eastern Kentucky and complete its journey in Tennessee.

For more information, contact regional coordinator, Meredith Dean at 1035 Cambria St., Christiansburg, VA. 24073, 540-381-5033.

Camp Sister Spirit

Camp Sister Spirit is located in Ovett, Mississippi and was founded by Brenda and Wanda Hensen as a residential retreat for lesbians and their friends and supporters. From the very beginning, these women, who moved to Ovett from Gulfport, have been under attack by the "good Christians" of the Ovett area. Recently, a lawsuit trying to close the camp as a "nuisance" was dismissed. Brenda and Wanda Hensen are strong community organizers who are carrying on despite the harassment. Besides their work on the land, the Hensen's are running a food pantry, providing monthly food boxes to 60 local people in Ovett.

Tax-deductible donations to Camp Sister Spirit are urgently needed. Write to Camp Sister Spirit, P.O. Box 12, Ovett, MS, 39464.

Fight The Right March

San Francisco

April 14, 1996

On Sunday, April 14, the Fight The Right March will assemble in San Francisco to bring together women, men and children from across the country to send a clear message to policy makers: the majority of people denounce the divisive hate-mongering of the right wing and will actively support affirmative action; economic justice; abortion rights and reproductive freedom; civil rights for people of color; lesbian, gay and bisexual rights; and efforts to end violence against women.

Assembly begins at 11 a.m. on Bay St. (between Franklin and Laguna). Step-off is called for 1 p.m. and the march route is approximately 1.7 miles. The rally will be at 2 p.m. at Crissy Field (in the Presidio).

Any group having 20 or more participants will be classified as a delegation. All delegations must register before March 15 to receive special recognition. Delegations are encouraged to order tri-color banners designed to resemble those used by the suffragists.



All buses must be pre-registered. To register buses, please call 415-436-9390.

For information about special airline rates, call International Travel Associates at 1-800-741-4384.

For hotel information, call San Francisco Reservations at 1-800-677-1550. Blocks of rooms have been reserved at special rates, ranging from \$79 to \$119 a night.

Alternative housing is also available on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information about housing, call 415-436-9390.

For more information: Fight the Right March- NOW Action Center, 1000 16th St. N.W., Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20036, 202-331-0066, 202-7858576(fax), e-mail: march@now.org San Francisco Office: 3543 18th St., Box 27, San Francisco, CA 94110, (415)436-9390 (415)436-9810(fax)



13,000 Oregon Public Employees Union workers went on strike against the state of Oregon in May, 1995. Workers demanded a pay increase after wages had been frozen for several years. Photo by Bette Lee.

ACT UP/LA Crashes the Republican Party



by Jeff Schuerholz

As Newt Gingrich, California Governor Pete Wilson, Colin Powell, and other Republican leaders and celebrities arrived at Chaseri's restaurant for Ronald Reagan's birthday (R.R. did not attend for health reasons), 300 demonstrators organized by ACT UP/LA banged drums, blew whistles, shouted through bullhorns and created a very loud disturbance about genocidal Re-

publican AIDS policy. Several times the demonstrators surged toward the entrance of the restaurant only to be held back by the West Hollywood sheriffs. Many demonstrators carried signs with pictures of Reagan and the caption, "Over 300,000 U.S. AIDS deaths — SHAME!" Reagan during his presidency ignored his own surgeon general and public health advisors, and allowed HIV/AIDS to spread un-

checked with no concern for the mounting death toll.

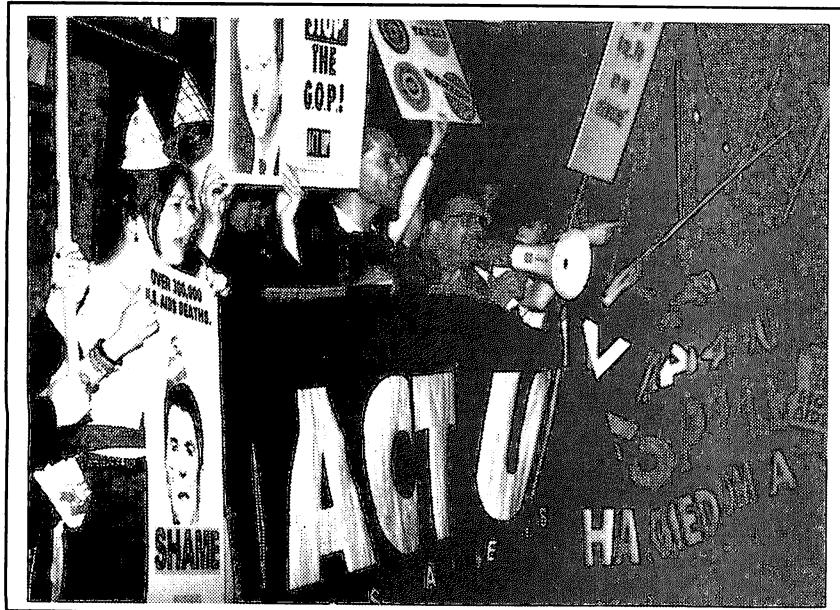
Pete Wilson — another target of demonstrators — has vetoed needle exchange bills three times, vetoed compassionate release of terminally ill prisoners with AIDS, and supported Prop 187, which denies healthcare to undocumented residents with AIDS.

Newt Gingrich was also targeted along with the Republican Party in general for their AIDS-phobic policies that continue to promote hatred, bigotry, racism and sexism.

A variety of other groups participated with ACT UP/LA, including WAC (Women's Action Coalition), Being Alive, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, students from UCLA and LA High School for the Arts, Radical Faeries, the City Aid Coordinator for LA, a member of the West Hollywood city council and SCORES of people with AIDS.

"We went to spoil their party — the way they've spoiled our lives," said ACT UP/LA member and person with AIDS Pete Jiminez.

ACT UP/LA (*the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power/Los Angeles*) can be reached at 212-669-7301.



ACT UP/LA demonstrators greeted the Republican elite February 6th in Los Angeles. Photo by Rob Nava.

Arrests in Seattle Protest Health Cuts

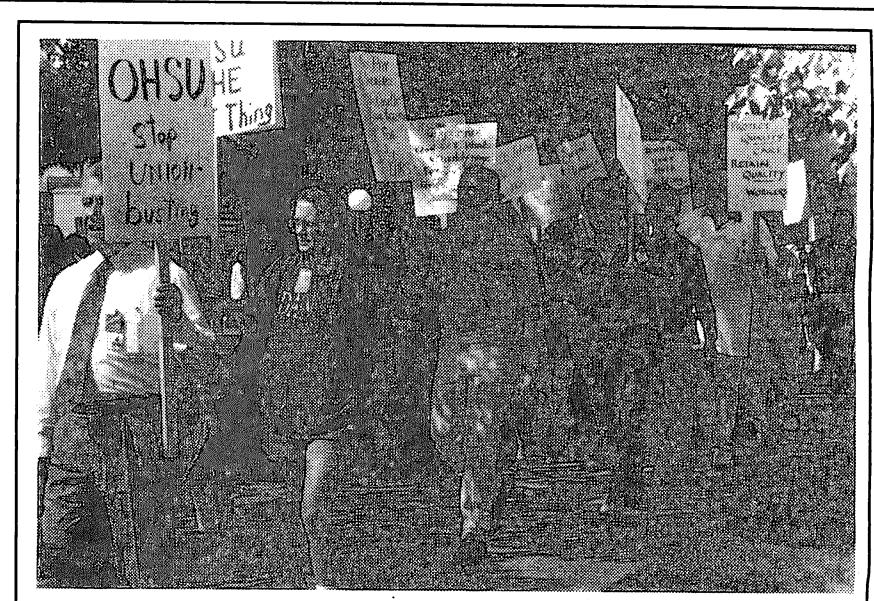
Chanting "Shame, Shame!", 31 senior citizens, nurses and labor and community activists took over the King County (Seattle) Republican Headquarters October 5, 1996, to protest proposed cuts in Medicaid and Medicare.

Participants gave personal testimonials about how the cuts would affect them. Visibly uncomfortable, office staffers got little work done. Demonstrators occupied the office for more than an hour before being arrested.

The nonviolent action, along with a simultaneous rally of 500 people outside Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, was organized by Washington State Jobs With Justice together with many other labor and community groups.

Demonstrations also took place in Tacoma, Olympia, Everett, Bellingham and Yakima.

Jobs With Justice, 206-448-7348, x309.



Health workers went on strike in 1995 at Oregon Health Sciences University, and achieved their first pay increase in four years. Photo by Bette Lee.



Diverse Coalition Rallies to Defend Peoples Park

by George Franklin,
GroundWork

The united efforts of a broad spectrum of neighbors, merchants, clergy and Park activists have culminated in the Berkeley city council taking an unprecedented stand in favor of community control of Peoples Park.

The University of California, which claims legal title to the land, could still derail the process with a unilateral move. But Park users and organizers expressed hope that the longtime vision of Peoples Park as permanent, user-developed open space may at last be coming to fruition.

The January 9th city council vote, taken in a room packed with Park supporters, climaxed months of wrangling between Park supporters, the city government, and the University.

In mid-1995, the city had announced plans to cooperate with the University in leveling the gently-sloping central part of the park, which is used for concerts and rallies, in order to construct sports facilities. The plan also called for evicting free food and clothing services from the Park. Park users and supporters immediately denounced the plan and began organizing resistance.

A coalition of the entire community

At the forefront of the struggle were members of East Bay Food Not Bombs, a large network of volunteers who have served free weekday lunches in the Park for the past five years.

"The city wanted us out of the Park," said Gene Gordon, who cooks with Food Not Bombs. "They put that word out, it was in all the papers. The city had even

signed a lease for an inside space, in a local church. They wanted us out."

The situation was ripe for a rerun of 1991, when UC's attempts to line the Park with sports courts led to four days of rioting and over 200 arrests, ending in a stalemate that gave UC two sports courts but left the center of the Park open for concerts.

But five years down the line, support for the Park has greatly broadened. Thanks to steady work by Park activists, Food Not Bombs, and members of the religious

see if we could be a bridge between the city and the University, to try to be peacemakers," said Townes.

People from all these groups spoke at recent city council meetings and made it clear that they would not accept the University's plans for more sports facilities and eviction of social services from the Park. Under such broad-based pressure, the city took a tentative step to oppose the University. "It was not a complete victory," said Gordon. "A lot of people don't trust the city. But even if it was only a momentary victory, let's savor that, and get ready for the next moment."

But will the University respect the city's stance, or just barrel ahead with their own plans? "I don't know," said Judy Foster of Food Not Bombs, who has been an integral part of building the pro-Park coalition. "I hope our government will be brave. We have presented a united front. If the University still says no to us, well, it will be in all the papers that UC turned down the city government and the mayor and everyone else. It isn't like we didn't try."

Foster expressed hope that local UC officials, and ultimately the UC regents, will at last see reason. "It isn't in anyone's interest to have a confrontation," she said.

Buying the Park?

In a new twist, Park supporters have begun organizing to buy the Park from UC. "I think the University should turn the Park over to us," said longtime Park gardener Lisa Stephens. "But if not, we are willing to buy it, even though it is already ours."

David Nadel, owner of Ashkenaz dance club and a tireless defender of the Park during the struggles of the 1990's, said, "The city council got the message that the people of Berkeley want to

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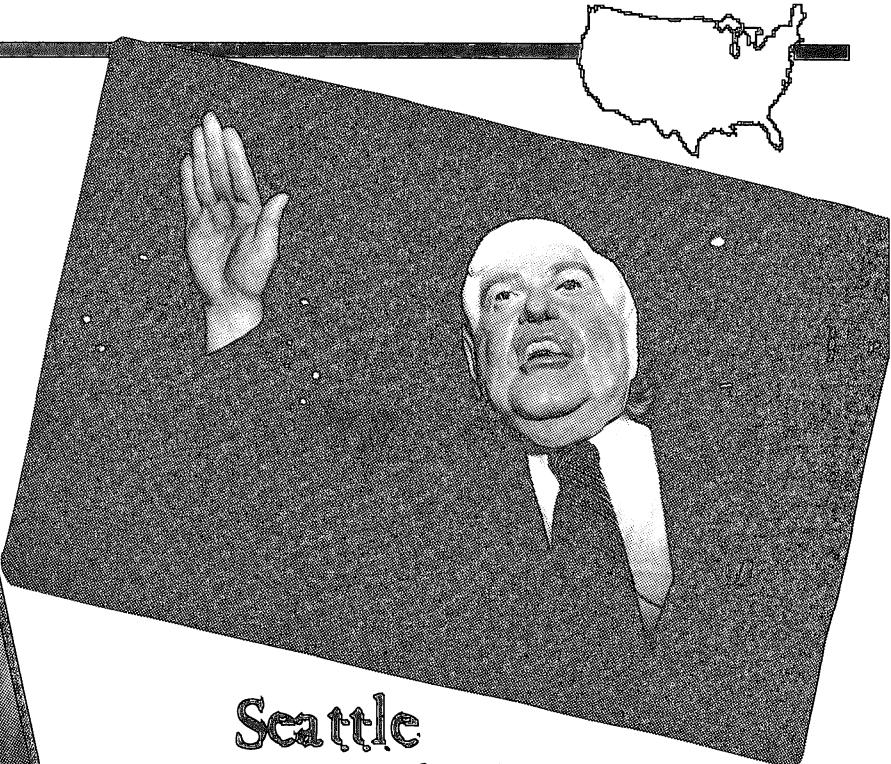


An impromptu jam session follows a Food Not Bombs lunch at the Peoples Stage.
Photo by Lydia Gans.

community, there is now a diverse network of people speaking out against UC's plans.

"We organized, made a lot of noise, had parades and marches and rallies," said Gordon. "And we had allies, like the Religious Coalition. Merchants all over Telegraph and Shattuck Avenue signed petitions, saying they want an end to the University's presence at Peoples Park, and for the city to buy the Park."

The Berkeley Religious Coalition with the Homeless played a key role in rallying moderate support for the Park. Frances Townes, founder of the Ecumenical Chaplaincy with the Homeless, helped recruit the several dozen clergy who are appealing to the city and the University to find a peaceful solution. "We wanted to



Seattle Hoots the Newt

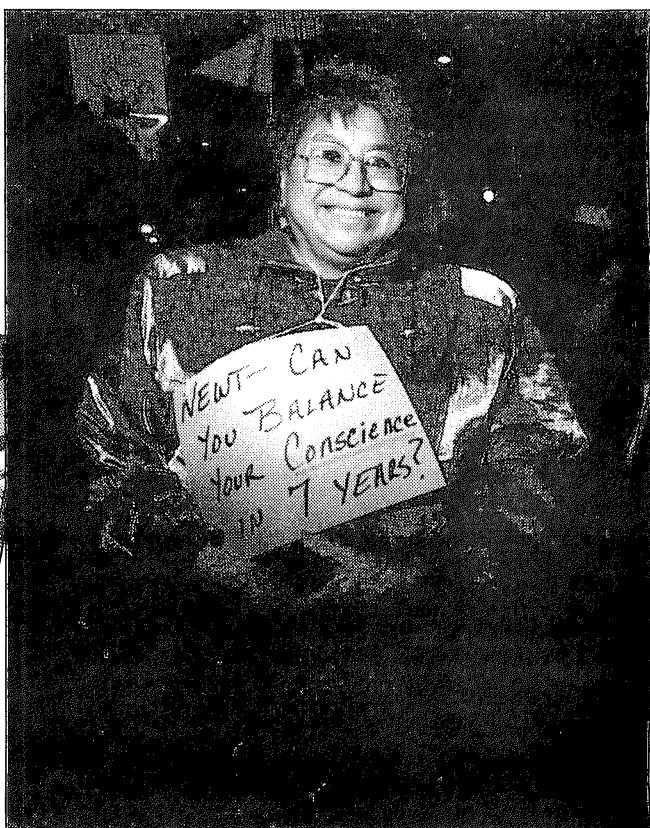
photos by Dana Schuerholz, Impact Visuals

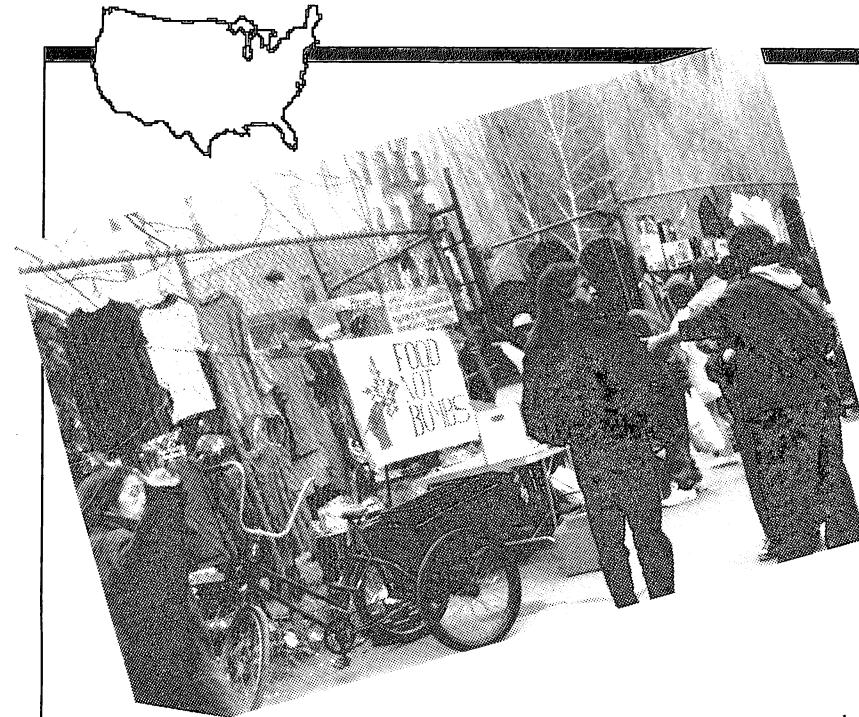
Designated National Villain Newt Gingrich dropped in on Seattle on January 10, 1996 for a \$250 a plate fundraiser. Spurred on by a core of local activists, 3000 people from dozens of progressive groups gathered to cast their vote on the Contract on America. Ranging from the radical bicyclists of Critical Mass to a busload of people from the Portland, Oregon chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees, the crowd far outnumbered the 300 or so pro-Newt demonstrators.

Inside the hotel, eleven protesters were arrested in the lobby adjacent to the reception hall. Apparently the "Eat the Rich" T-shirt one person was wearing gave the group away.

Newt himself was annoyed by the rally, and allegedly referred to protesters as "organized labor" and "unemployed potheads."

Thanks to Geov Parrish.

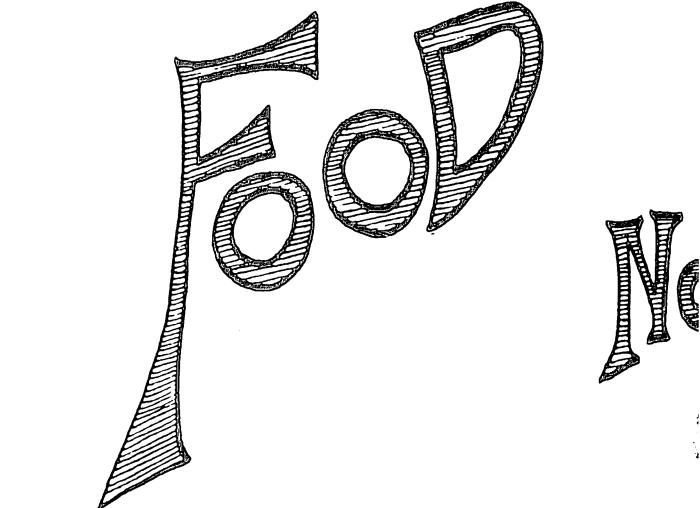




photos

Photos by Keith McHenry, except East Bay FNB by Lydia Gans. Counter-clockwise from top left:

- New York City
- Fort Worth
- New Orleans
- East Bay (Berkeley/Oakland)
- San Francisco/FNB 1995 Gathering
- Boston
- Atlanta



Food Not Bombs updates

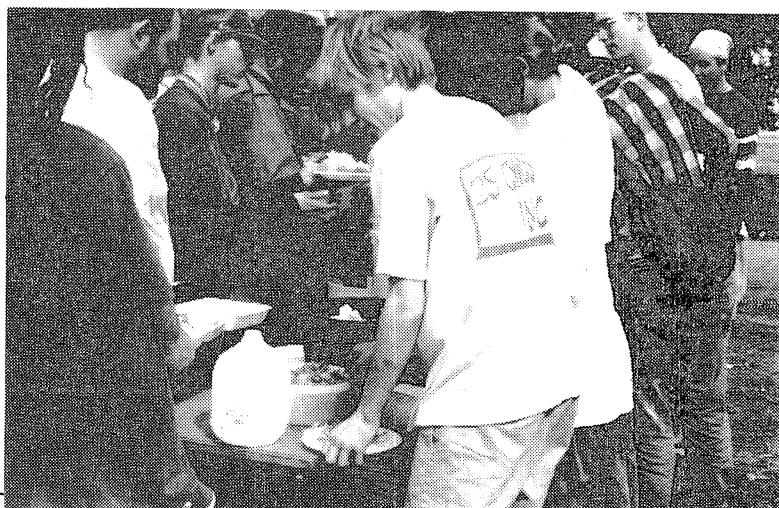
Gainesville FNB was started in spring 1995. They have been serving meals steadily since October 1995, and are working with Second Harvest and the St. Francis House to collect and distribute food on weekends. Members are also working on a free clothes box, a community garden, and a "Homeless and Hungry Guide to Gainesville." Contact FNB Gainesville, 904-335-8928.

East Bay (Oakland/Berkeley) Food Not Bombs has been at the forefront of the defense of Peoples Park [See story, page 28]. FNB serves free lunches in the Park five days a week, and also a weekend meal in downtown Oakland. For info on FNB or Peoples Park, call The Long Haul, 510-540-0751.

Food Not Bombs New Haven has about fifteen members serving meals to 30-40 people on Sunday afternoons. The group is looking for volunteers to begin serving weekday meals, and to branch out and serve in other cities like Waterbury, Hartford, or Danbury. Call New Haven FNB, 203-630-3865.

San Bernardino FNB is serving lunches to about 50

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Food Not Bombs

Food Not Bombs Goes for the Gold

by Bob Darby

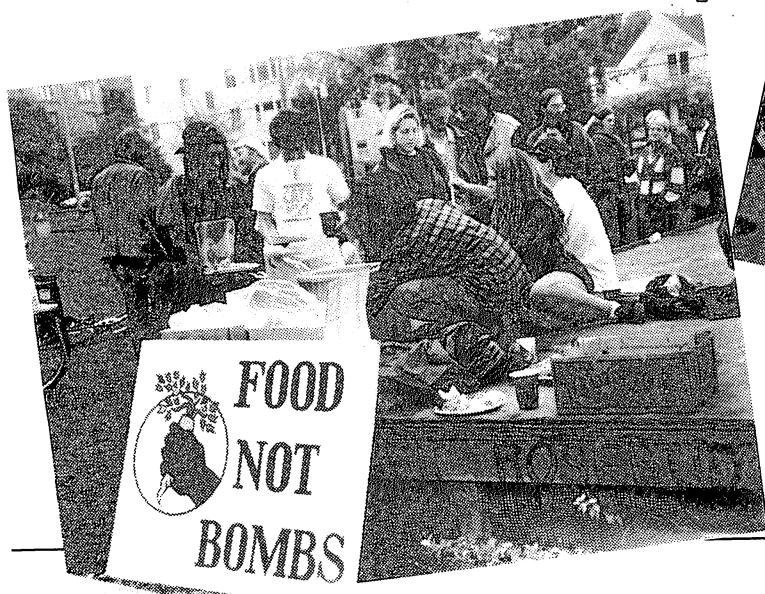
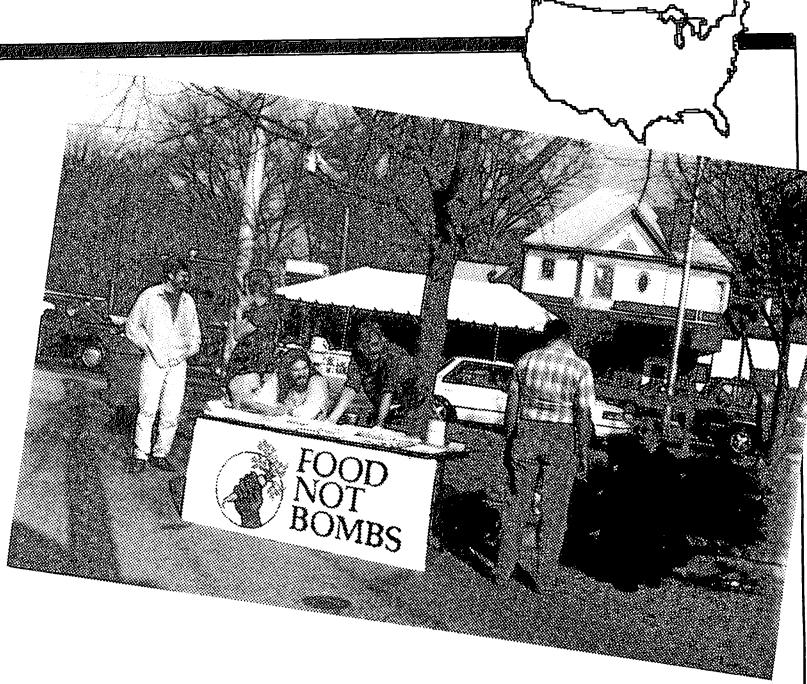
The Third International Gathering of Food Not Bombs (FNB) will coincide with Atlanta's 1996 Olympics, which are being renamed "The 1996 Olympic Games of Transnational Greed."

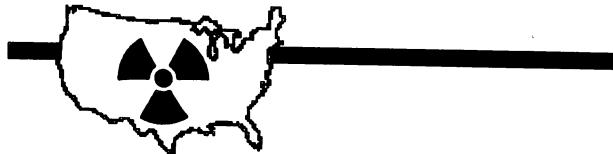
Between July 18 and August 4, hundreds of FNB volunteers from all over the United States and Europe will come to Atlanta to speak up for the poor and denounce Olympic corporate greed.

While billions of dollars are spent on the Olympics, seven million Americans are without homes. Atlanta alone has 20,000 homeless people. In a time of alleged prosperity, this is disgraceful — and Food Not Bombs will not let the world forget it.

During the Olympics, FNB will continuously and publicly feed Atlanta's homeless. We will play controversial music and perform political street theater citywide. Olympic tourists will be showered with FNB literature, and

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NUCLEAR WASTE AND AN UPDATE

In our last three issues, Groundwork provided detailed coverage of the military production network for nuclear weapons and of proposed or existing "low-level" and "high-level" radioactive waste sites. This issue contains a selective update focusing on eight of the sites, with a brief glance at a ninth. Limitations of space prevent us from covering the many other sites that also deserve attention.

At former military production sites, serious damage has already been done. Neighbors are struggling to undo the existing damage, and to prevent more. They are pressuring the Department of Energy [DOE] to clean the sites up properly, and are trying to forestall or at least to monitor closely the storage of radioactive materials left over from the Cold War.

At proposed nuclear "disposal" sites, the task activists face is to save pristine lands or to prevent delivery of radioactive materials to facilities where construction is already well along. Years have passed, and most of the facilities lie empty or remain on the drawing boards. The delays which citizen efforts have achieved are in themselves a victory. But more years of resistance, on all levels, lie ahead of us before the struggle against the nuclear complex, in all its aspects, is won.

— Patrick Diehl

New York group calls for direct involvement at Nuclear Sites

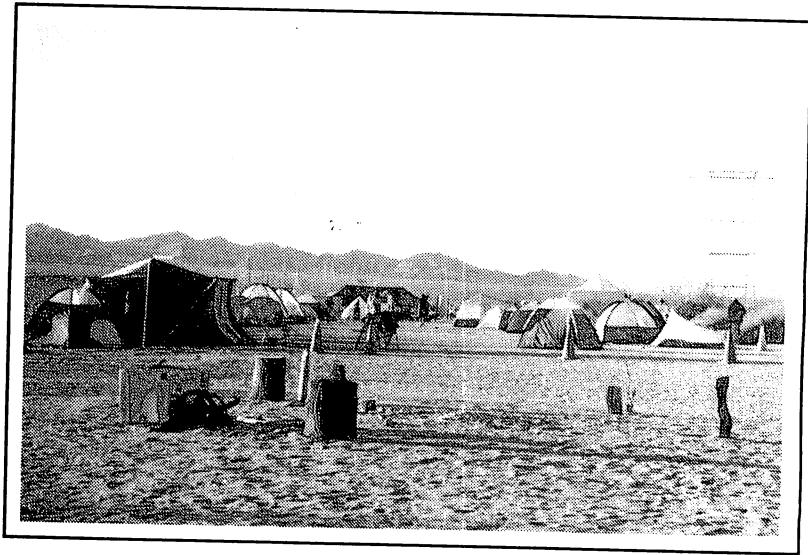
"The Chenango North Energy Awareness Group (Chenango North) advocates nothing less than full decision making authority for any residents who may be at risk from radiation-connected activity."

Chenango North has issued a detailed call which goes far beyond current language about "accountability" and "responsiveness" to advocate complete public participation in nuclear decision-making. The Call concludes:

"The NRC should represent the public, not the nuclear industry. The NRC should act as expert consultants to community boards.... The NRC must educate the public about the continuing responsibility they and their future generations will have, caring for radioactive waste. This education begins with involvement in the process.

"The public must demand shared decision making powers. Otherwise, nothing will change."

For the complete call, contact GroundWork, or Susan B. Griffin, coordinator, Chenango North Energy Awareness Group (member of Don't Waste New York). Contact DWNY, Star Route Box 303A, South Plymouth NY 13844, 607-863-3872.



In October 1995, several hundred activists, local citizens, and members of local Native American tribes gathered in the desert at Ward Valley to protest and organize around the proposed nuclear dump in the Southern California desert.

The proposed dump site is a mere 18 miles from the Colorado River, and is prime habitat for the threatened Desert Tortoise. See story on page 34-35 for more details.

The photos on the next six pages are from the October gathering at Ward Valley. Photo by Steve Nadel, GroundWork.

GroundWork will continue to cover nuclear waste issues nationwide. Please add us to your mailing list, and send us word (and photos) of your activities!

MILITARY PRODUCTION SITES



FORMER MILITARY PRODUCTION SITES

PANTEX

For decades, the Pantex facility near Amarillo, TX put nuclear warheads together. Now, it is taking them apart, in the process producing thousands of plutonium "pits" that all require safe, secure storage.

Four citizen groups are wrestling with the new problems Pantex presents, as well as the contamination left over from its former operations. The Pantex Peace Farm has worked with Save Sierra Blanca and the Nevada Nuclear Task Force and against French nuclear testing; it also does general peace and justice work. STAND [Serious Texans Against Nuclear Dumping] and PANAL [Panhandle Area Neighbors And Landowners] focus on Pantex. The Texas Nuclear Waste Task Force participates in major actions there.

Recently, STAND and PANAL have been involved in the dispute over air and water RCRA permits for Pantex. Federal facilities are now expected to comply with state and local environmental regulations, and Pantex compliance is being examined for the first time.

All four groups are getting ready to deal with a series of crucial PEISs [Programmatic Environmental Impact Statements] that DOE is releasing during the first half of '96: Stockpile Stewardship, Disposition of Fissile Materials, and a Pantex Site-Wide EIS (the first since '83). The future work of the groups hinges to a large degree on the contents of these documents. Their two main goals are to keep plutonium processing off the Pantex site and to prevent Pantex from becoming a permanent plutonium storage site.

The groups ask activists to scrutinize the PEISs and to ensure that the outcome of the EIS process is the best possible for the country as a whole. Otherwise, the old game of playing communities off against each other will continue.

Info: The Peace Farm, 806-358-2622.

ROCKY FLATS

Sixteen miles northwest (and upwind) of Denver, CO, the Rocky Flats facility used to manufacture the plutonium "pits" for nuclear warheads. In late '89, after a long history of dangerous incidents and violations, it was shut down for safety reasons.

Currently, the Rocky Mountain Peace

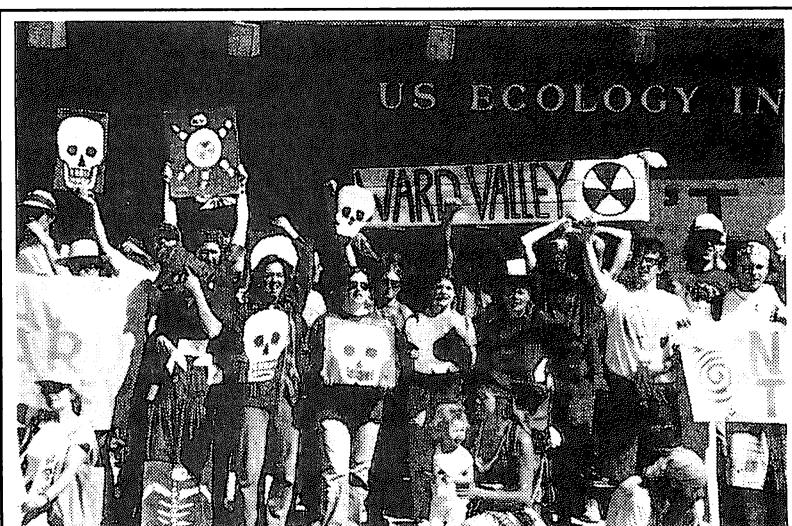
in an above-ground, monitored, retrievable form.

2) The "Vision" would leave the site cleaned up only to industrial zone/open space levels. Instead, the ultimate goal should be clean up to natural background levels.

3) The "Vision" would allow a variety of industrial activities in the core area. It would also allow sale of part of the buffer

zone for industrial development. Instead, activities in these areas should be confined to clean environmental technology, environmental research, and natural and cultural resource management. Such activities would help achieve the goal of full clean up of the site.

4) The



Ward Valley defenders gather outside the Needles, California office of U.S. Ecology, the ironically-named contractor for the disastrous Beatty, Nevada dump site, and the leading candidate to build a dump at Ward Valley. See caption, page 32, for more info. Photo by Steve Nadel, GroundWork.

Center and other citizen groups are working to ensure full restoration of the far-flung site. In late '95, the DOE, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the EPA released a "vision" for Rocky Flats which turned a blind eye to the recommendations of the Future Site Use Working Group, a citizens' advisory committee that DOE itself had convened. Here are the principal defects of the "vision," and the remedies that concerned citizens advocate for them:

1) The "Vision" would open a 130-200 acre "low-level" radioactive waste [LLRW] landfill in the old plutonium processing area. Instead, all radioactive waste that remains on site should be stored

"Vision" would raze and then bury contaminated buildings on site, rendering full clean up impossible. Instead, all contaminated materials must be stored till technologies are developed for their safe disposal. (As of 1/96, the government seemed to be backing away from its plan to bury buildings in their own basements.)

5) The "Vision" says nothing about purchase of mineral rights in the buffer zone. Instead, DOE should purchase and protect these rights in order to prevent future mining in the buffer zone.

6) The "Vision" seeks to eliminate all signs of the site's unfortunate history.

continued on next page



NUCLEAR WASTE AND

Instead, so long as dangerous materials remain on site, the public needs visible reminders of their presence.

7) Finally, the "Vision" limits itself to what would be possible under assumed current budgetary constraints. Instead, the federal government should establish a reliable funding mechanism (e.g., an earmarked trust fund) for clean up. The health of human beings and the environment, not the bottom line, should guide the clean up at Rocky Flats. In particular, nothing should be done now that would foreclose future clean up possibilities or put future generations at risk.

Local opposition to the "Vision" is heavy. No final decisions have yet been reached. The Citizens' Advisory Board (on which the Peace Center has two members) has rejected burial of radioactive waste at Rocky Flats and is calling for study of long-term monitoring.

Info: Rocky Mountain Peace Center, 303-444-6981.

HANFORD

Radioactive contamination of the

Hanford site on the Columbia River in the state of Washington began with the Manhattan Project back in 1943. Hanford was the production facility for plutonium for the U.S. nuclear arsenal for almost 45 years. As a result, the nation faces a clean up at Hanford on a scale that boggles the mind [see *Groundwork #4, pp 14-15, for details*]. Billions have already been spent on the site, to little effect.

Now DOE is reneging on the 1/94 Tri Party Agreement [TPA] for clean up of the 177 tanks of radioactive waste at Hanford. (The tanks are huge, and many of them are leaking.) The agreement was reached after years of documented technical work and community involvement. Under White House and Congressional pressure, DOE wants to privatize treatment of the waste, hiring two competing contractors who would construct duplicate sets of several processing and treatment facilities. The citizens' group HEAL [Hanford Education Action League], the Hanford Advisory Board, the State Department of Ecology, generals from the Defense Systems Acquisition College, and even private contractors have asserted that

DOE's approach is likely to fail, but DOE has refused to make meaningful changes.

Unlike the TPA, the DOE approach has many defects:

- 1) elimination of most of the interim milestones in the TPA will hamstring oversight and enforcement;
- 2) the program is treated as "procurement-sensitive" and as "proprietary information," shielding most activities from the Freedom of Information Act, a crucial weapon that citizens have used in winning public accountability at Hanford;
- 3) there is widespread public and regulatory opposition to the proposal;
- 4) DOE is retreating from the TPA's hard-won, well-founded mandate for vitrification (incorporation of the waste in glass);
- 5) the program is incomplete (i.e., there's no guarantee that facilities able to vitrify all the waste will be built);
- 6) DOE has little or no documentation to support its change of plan,

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Healing Global Wounds: April 1996 at Nevada Test Site

A coalition of groups including traditional indigenous peoples, peace and anti-nuclear activists, veterans, and citizens groups from the region are calling for a conference and encampment at Las Vegas and the Nevada Test Site April 1-8, 1996.

In the year of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, with many decisions facing Congress and the Department of Energy about long-range nuclear weapons and energy plans, and a national election, it is more important than ever to join together and

make a stand for a nuclear free future.

The Summit and Encampment are to be held on Western Shoshone land, which includes the Nevada Test Site. Western Shoshone spiritual leader Corbin Harney describes the impact on his people's land:

"It's in our backyard, it's in our front yard. This nuclear contamination is shortening all life. We're going to have to unite as a people and say, no more! We, the people, are going to have to put our

thoughts together to save our planet. We only have One Water... One Air...

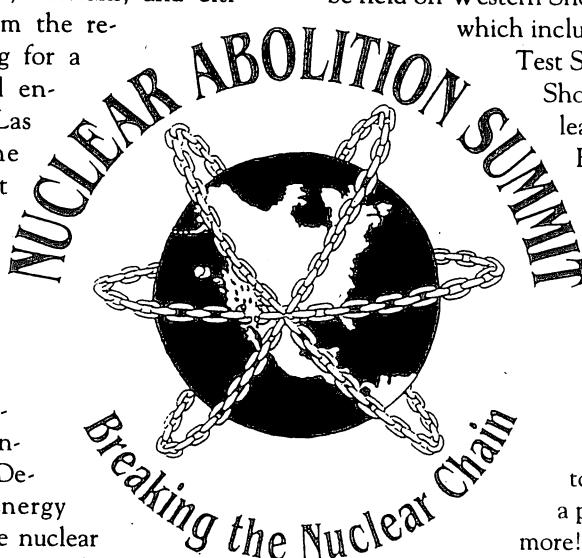
One Mother Earth."

The Nuclear Abolition Summit in Las Vegas, April 1-4, includes a rally at the University of Nevada campus and a Nuclear Fools Day Parade to the Department of Energy offices. The Summit ends on April 4 at the gates of Nevada Test Site.

From April 4-7, Healing Global Wounds holds its annual multi-cultural Spring Gathering at the Test Site. On Good Friday, the Lenten Desert Experience Walk arrives at the Test Site.

Monday, April 8, Healing Global Wounds is calling for a Nuclear Abolition Day of Action around the world. Through nonviolent direct action, participants will close the Test Site, and will demand that the U.S. honor the Western Shoshone National Council's Nwee Sogobia Nuclear Free Zone Resolution.

Contact 408-338-0147 or 202-588-0192.



MILITARY PRODUCTION SITES



PROPOSED NUCLEAR WASTE DUMP SITES

[Note: in the context of civilian nuclear waste, "high-level" means spent fuel rods, and "low-level" means all other waste, even if it contains plutonium that has escaped from fuel rods. For "low-level radioactive waste," a more accurate acronym than "LLRW" would be "EBFR," meaning "everything but fuel rods." For general introduction, see page 32.]

YUCCA MOUNTAIN (HIGH LEVEL)

The legislative situation for the Yucca Mountain facility, on the southwestern edge of the Nevada Nuclear Test Site, is in constant flux. As of late 1/96, various bills were pending but stalled in Congress, including the bill that would park hundreds of containers of HLW [high-level waste] on a huge parking lot near Yucca Mountain, awaiting final disposition. Activists should know that the military and civilian sides of DOE are starting to link up around waste. If DOE goes into reprocessing or ends the segregation of military from civilian waste, national security may be invoked, presenting groups working against civilian nuclear waste with new difficulties.

As in the past, the citizen group, the Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force, continues to work very closely with the State of Nevada's Nuclear Waste Office. Recently, the Waste Office asked DOE for its usual support check. The congressional committee under whose jurisdiction DOE falls, headed by Don Myers (IN), threatened to dock DOE's appropriation by whatever amount DOE might provide the Waste Office. The committee's position, for NV but not for any other state, is that the law does not require DOE to support independent oversight. Clearly, this position is both inequitable and vindictive.

In other developments, EPA is drawing up a site-specific radiation protection standard for Yucca Mountain, and the NRC [Nuclear Regulatory Commission] is discussing a site-specific licensing procedure. The State of NV was told that Yucca Mountain would be



United Farm Workers joined the October Mojave Days Parade through downtown Needles, California, and were one of numerous contingents protesting the proposed nuclear waste dump at Ward Valley. Photo by Steve Nadel, GroundWork. See caption, page 32, for more info.

licensed only if it met EPA emission standards, but it looks as if this promise may be broken, and the rules rewritten.

Across the USA, people understand that dumping HLW on Nevada is unfair and unethical, and that Yucca Mountain would only be the beginning—other states would soon follow NV as national sacrifice zones.

Info: Nevada Nuclear Waste Task Force, 800-227-9809.

WIPP (HIGH LEVEL)

Years ago, near Carlsbad, NM, DOE excavated WIPP [Waste Isolation Pilot Project] 2150 feet underground in a salt formation. They hoped to send 29,000 truckloads of military transuranic waste there over a 25-year period, beginning in '88. Water in the formation, highly lethal levels of hydrogen sulfide just below it, and other problems have aroused wide public opposition. At this point, the tunnels of WIPP remain empty.

The All Peoples Coalition [APC] and Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping [CARD] are currently focusing on stopping two pieces of congressional legislation. A bill introduced by Congressman Joe Skeen (a Republican from

southern NM) would open WIPP in 3/97. The bill (HR 1663) would also strip EPA of its role of certifying that the facility meets its standards and transfer that role to DOE. The bill is a frontal assault on the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act which passed Congress in '92, supported by the whole NM delegation (including Skeen himself). SB 1402, a bill similar to HR 1663, though milder, has been introduced in the Senate by Craig (R-ID); Bennett Johnston (D-LA) is a co-sponsor. Both bills would allow WIPP to open before it is proven to be safe.

A petition drive against the bills in 12/95 gathered 5,000 signatures (a lot for lightly populated NM). Readers are asked to urge their representatives and senators to join the people of NM in opposing HR 1663 and SB 1402.

EPA is supposed to issue final compliance criteria for WIPP early this year. The agency has stated that it has many issues with DOE's draft application, all of which must be resolved before the application can be completed.

The current estimated cost for WIPP is 9.4 billion, even without engineered barriers to intrusion by drilling, treatment

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NUCLEAR WASTE AND

PROPOSED NUCLEAR DUMP SITES

continued from previous page

for the waste, or proper determination of the contents of the waste drums (@ \$500-\$2,000 per drum). This is a high price tag for a facility that at best could handle only a small fraction of the transuranic waste stream. And if the facility experienced a catastrophic failure, the price tag could go much, much higher.

For more info, contact CARD/APC, 505-266-2663.

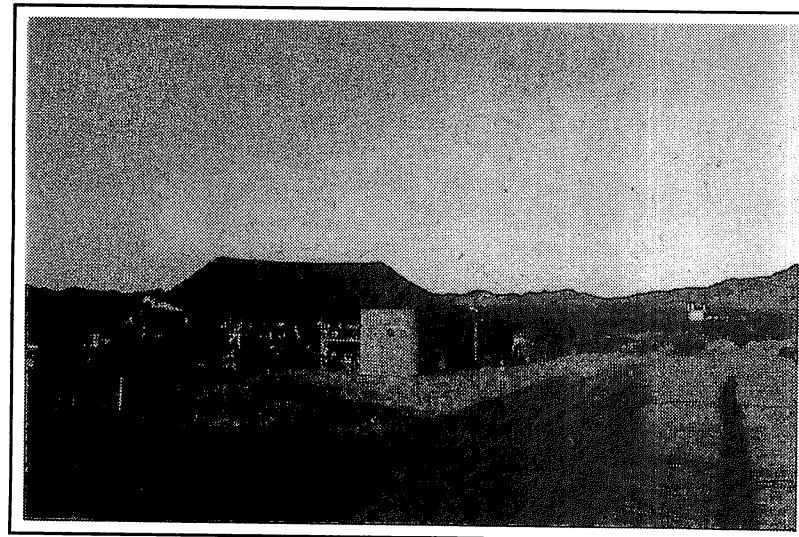
WEST VALLEY (LOW LEVEL)

The New York State LLRW waste program seems to be on hold. The siting commission is no more (thanks at least in part to unrelenting citizen resistance), and no bills are pending (though several are in hibernation). Apparently, shipments of waste to Barnwell, SC and to Envirocare in UT have removed the pressure for finding a long-term solution to New York's waste problem.

Since things are quiet on the waste dump front, activists in New York are free to concentrate on the nuclear utilities, who generate the most (and the most dangerous) LLRW. Niagara Mohawk, owner of 2 nuclear power plants, has threatened to file for bankruptcy and raise their rates dramatically if the State doesn't buy their plants. The New York Power Authority, operator of 2 nuclear power plants that were recently on the NRC's watch list, would like to get out of power generation and into power distribution. Many New York State communities are contracting for electricity with other suppliers than the big utilities; some of the

new suppliers use "green energy" sources. And New York State is looking at a surplus of electricity for the foreseeable future. The stage may be set for divestment from nuclear power and an end to the nuclear power industry, not only in New York, but throughout the country.

Info: *Don't Waste N.Y.*, 607-863-3872.



Following the October 1995 encampment at Ward Valley, a number of activists decided to continue the encampment. With the support of local Native American tribes, 10-20 people have been camping on the proposed site. See caption, page 32 for more info. Photo by Mike Mathews.

SIERRA BLANCA (LOW LEVEL)

In west TX, Sierra Blanca (poor, small, 2/3 Latino, and already the victim of the largest sewage sludge dump in the world) is fighting another dump, this time for LLRW, only 16 miles from the Rio Grande and Mexico.

In 9/95, pressure from the Border Coalition Against Radioactive Dumping (including Save Sierra Blanca and Alert Citizens for Environmental Safety) won a remarkable victory in the U.S. House of Representatives: by a vote of 243-176, the TX/ME/VT Compact Consent Act (HR 558) was rejected. Crucial to this success was the conversion of the conservative Republican local congressman, Henry Bonilla, from a supporter to an opponent of the dump.

Despite the large majority against the compact, the Republican leadership in the House is intent on re-introducing HR 558

(and may already have done so when this issue reaches our readers). One of the most objectionable features of the bill is that the compact commission (consisting entirely of appointed rather than elected officials, and therefore unaccountable to the public) could contract to accept waste from any person, state, or group of states. In other words, Sierra Blanca could

become the national dump for the whole USA. The proposed fee of \$170-\$240 per cubic foot, the lowest in the country, would increase the likelihood of such an outcome.

Former TX governor Ann Richards is working hard for the compact, and dozens of nuclear power lobbyists are massaging the swing votes. Dump opponents are trying to persuade the Border Caucus in Congress to pass a resolution against the compact. Readers should contact their representatives and senators and urge them to vote against HR 558 if it is re-introduced.

If the bill is adopted with an amendment excluding Sierra Blanca as the dump site, or even if the bill fails outright,

the State of TX may turn to Andrews, TX, just across the stateline from Eunice, NM, where a chemical waste dump is already under construction. The Andrews dump operators already have 16,000 acres of land at their disposal, and they are eager to expand into mixed waste and LLRW. So the focus of resistance to an LLRW dump site in TX may shift during the next year or two.

In the meantime, the Sierra Blanca sludge dump operators have filed a SLAPP suit against Bill Addington (director of Save Sierra Blanca), Hugh Kaufman (EPA whistleblower), and Sony/TRISTAR for \$33 million over a TV broadcast criticizing the sludge dump. The operators want a 15-year extension, and public criticism threatens to thwart their plans. The suit comes up for a hearing in 3/96. The same TX commission deals with both the sludge dump and the proposed LLRW dump.

The Sierra Club, the Environmental

MILITARY PRODUCTION SITES



Defense Fund, and other environmental organizations currently support "recycling" sludge as fertilizer. Bill Addington points out that radioisotopes, as well as heavy metals and other toxins, are concentrated in sewage sludge. Readers (especially if they belong to organizations holding this position) might consider trying to get it changed.

Info: Save Sierra Blanca, 915-369-2541.

WARD VALLEY (LOW LEVEL)

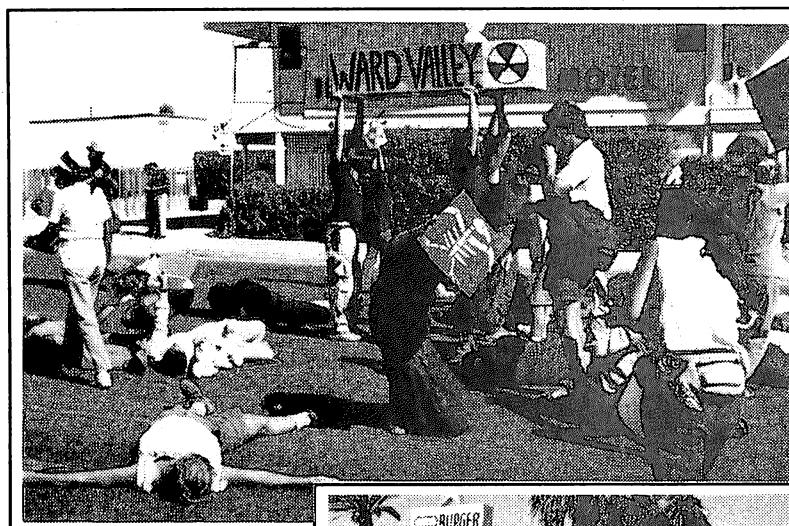
In 10/95, a six-day encampment near the proposed LLRW dump site in Ward Valley (22 miles west of Needles, CA, off I-40) drew a total of 600-700 people. Early in the encampment, members of the Alliance of Atomic Veterans crossed Homer Wash and set up a large tent on the dump site itself, launching an occupation of the site that is still going strong [3/96]. Since the site is on BLM land, the occupation (christened "Nobody's Wasteland") is legal at present.

The October encampment and the occupation that sprang from it have boosted activity against the dump to a new level. The Fort Mojave Indian Tribe has been funding a "Save Ward Valley" office in town since 10/23/95—it has become the nerve center for the campaign. Activists staying at the camp and working out of the office have put unprecedented energy into local outreach and organizing along the Lower Colorado River, in close collaboration with the Fort Mojave Tribe and with members of the four other "wet" tribes downriver: the Chemehuevi, the Colorado River Indian Tribes [CRIT], the Fort Yuma-Quechan, and the Cocopah.

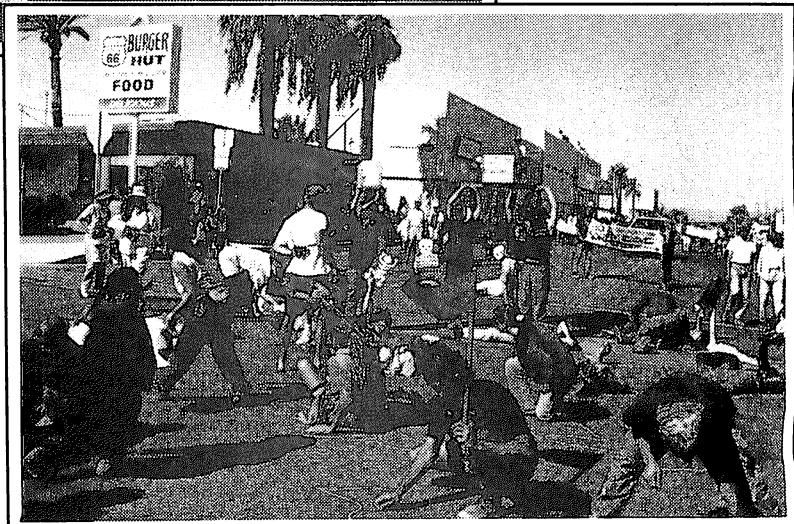
The CRIT Mohave

elders' committee held a spiritual gathering on the site from 12/1-12/3/95 which 200-300 people attended. An Emergency Response Network has been set up, in case non-violent direct action becomes necessary, and Hispanic and African-American organizations working against toxic chemicals or dumps in their own communities are beginning to join the coalition, which has included anti-toxics groups like CCAT [CA Citizens Against Toxics] and DCAP [Desert Citizens Against Pollution] from the start.

This ferment of activity fueled a successful effort to persuade Clinton to come out against a rider on the Budget Reconciliation Bill that would have transferred the proposed dump site to the State of CA, allowing construction of the dump to begin. More recently, the Clinton administration finessed the issue till after the fall election by having the Department of the Interior announce a Supplemental



Participants in the October 1995 Ward Valley encampment marched in the Mojave Days Parade in Needles CA, performing this skit repeatedly along the downtown route. Reaction of the crowd ranged from silence to enthusiastic applause. See caption, page 32 for more info. Photos by Steve Nadel, GroundWork.



Environmental Impact Statement (incorporating Native American concerns about spiritual sites) and additional tritium testing for the dump project. If the administration does not bow to the intense counter-pressure from the nuclear industry, including legislation now being introduced into the Senate (3/96), the SEIS and the testing will delay the project for another 12-18 months.

Even if the project is delayed, the administration has only raised the conditions for the land transfer, not the transfer itself, in its public statements. Activists fear that, once the elections are past, the project will be allowed to proceed.

Groups in the coalition are holding a spring gathering in Ward Valley from April 11-14, the weekend after the culmination of the Healing Global Wounds actions at the Nevada Test Site.

People working out of the Needles office and the ongoing encampment in Ward Valley hope that participants in the movements against nuclear weapons, nuclear power, and nuclear waste will be able to join forces and work together to shatter the nuclear chain that holds our planet in bondage.

Info: Save Ward Valley, 619-326-6267.

Street Papers Build Alternative Media



Oakland/Berkeley — 510-238-8080

Across the country, a new type of grassroots publication is springing up: the "street" paper. Often funded by foundation grants or religious groups, and sold by homeless vendors who keep some or all of the proceeds, these papers are rapidly becoming essential reading for anyone concerned with the plight of our cities.

Following is an account of the operation of one of these innovative publications, San Francisco's Street Sheet.

Begun in November 1989, the Street Sheet is a monthly newspaper written and published by the Coalition on Homelessness in San Francisco. The Coalition is a non-profit organization, made up of

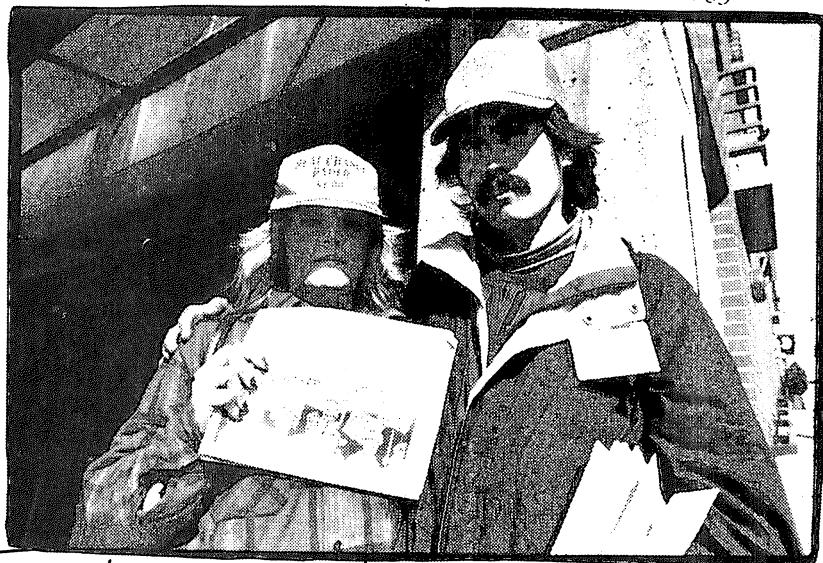
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New York City — 212-979-6601



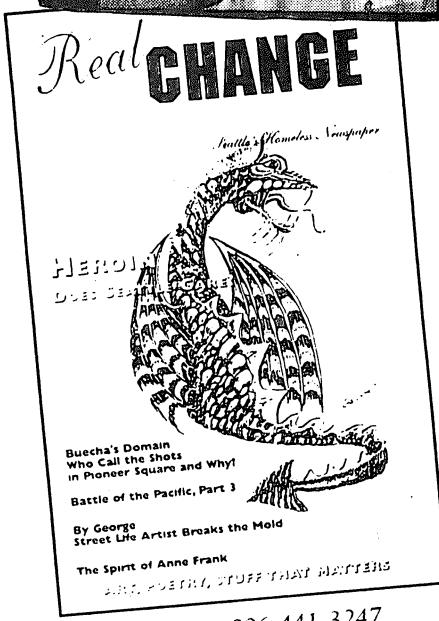
Pittsburgh — 412-765-3302
Denver 303-837-9303



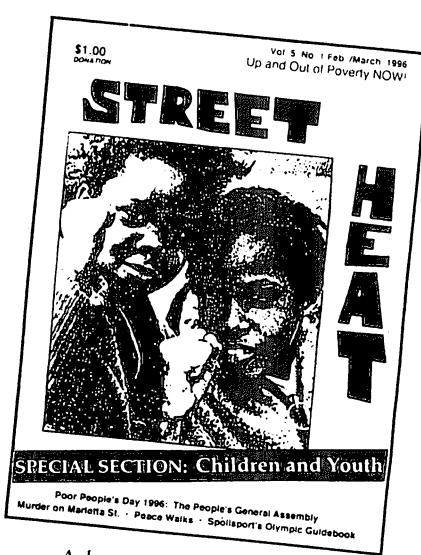
Dana Schuerholz, Impact Visuals



San Francisco — 415-346-3740



Seattle — 206-441-3247



Atlanta — 404-584-7141

Boston Homes Not Jails

Housing for People, Not for Profit!

photos & text by Alli Starr

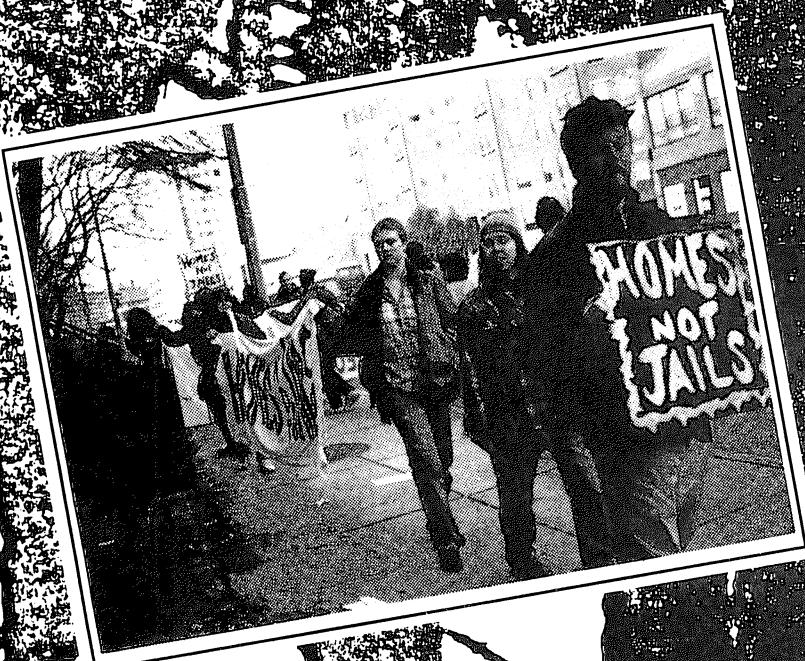
[On November 25, 1995, 35 protesters assembled for the first Homes Not Jails protest in Boston. The group marched to support five HNJ members who were occupying a building at 415 Mass. Ave. that has stood vacant for most of the past fifteen years.]

We heard a Homes Not Jails group was forming in Boston. We began attending meetings in the Red Cross Building, filled with motivated activists. Collectively, we planned a housing takeover for the day after Thanksgiving. The biggest shopping day of the year seemed like a poignant time to bring to the city's

attention that over 22,000 local housing units lie abandoned while 6000 individuals and families are homeless in Boston.

The action was planned in solidarity with other Homes Not Jails groups around America who were also planning to respond to the

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"There's no money being spent on rehabilitating property into housing for homeless people. Putting more money into shelters isn't a very humane solution, because it doesn't give people the stability they need to live."

Camille Viveiros, Homes Not Jails



War Tax Resistance Organizing in Appalachia

by Clare Hanrahan

The decision to resist voluntary payment of taxes can be the beginning of an often lonely and always precarious journey. Connecting with others who walk this path can alleviate many of the fears and insecurities that arise, and help bind us together in a community of resistance to the militarization of our country.

Taxes for Life! is a war tax redirection alliance founded in 1993, to bring together people of conscience living in remote rural homesteads, mountain communities, and small cities in the Katuah Province of the Appalachian Bioregion.

We come together in the shelter of the oldest mountain on earth to provide mutual support and counsel, to share information, and to make a public witness to the human right to live free of state coercion of conscience. Individually, we redirect hundreds of tax dollars each year otherwise lost to military uses.

This peace taxpaying helps to support vital community projects. The Taxes for Life! Alternative Fund, founded in 1995, makes grants of redirected war tax monies to local and regional groups working to alleviate suffering caused by misplaced national priorities and seeks to support nonviolent social change. Recipients have included Food Not Bombs, Mountain Area Gardeners in Community, and the Western North Carolina Alliance for their organizing work in support of bus riders.

Many forms of resistance

Tax resistance takes many forms, from telephone excise tax refusal to total noncooperation, and each carries a different level of personal risk. Since the initiation of our group, we have found many allies. We feel a kinship with all who have engaged in war tax resistance in the past and with those sympathetic to the struggle though not yet willing to assume the personal risks. We draw inspiration and encouragement from one another and share practical counsel and support.

Public meetings are held every other month at The Alternative Reading Room in Asheville, and we travel to nearby communities on occasion to meet with individuals and groups.

Every year the IRS compels payment of income taxes used primarily for weapons systems and war preparation. Payment of these taxes is a compromise of our integrity as activists striving for a world free of injustice and war.

Authentic living requires that action be consistent with belief. With each decision we either move toward a more just and sustainable world community, or we further bind ourselves with grievous complicity to the degradation and destruction of the Earth.

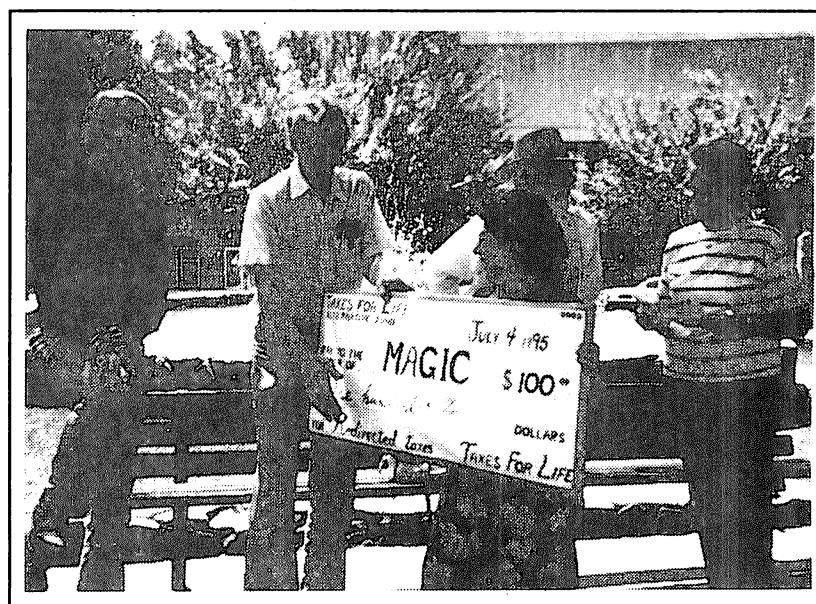
Noncooperation with the IRS can bring about a very real threat to career, home, personal and financial security. Yet paying tax dollars to support government actions that we find morally repugnant is an insidious and certain endangerment to the life of our planet and to our very souls — both as individuals and as organizations dedicated to work for peace and justice.

Taxes for Life! is planning the second

annual "Fools of Conscience" War Tax Resistance Conference in Asheville and in the rural land trust community of Celo this Spring around April Fools Day. The two-day event will bring together seasoned veterans of the war tax resistance/redirection movement as well as individuals just beginning to question their war tax paying. We hope to explore strategies and share ideas as to how this important form of nonviolent direct action can best be used to bring about the revolution in values that will assure a just and sustainable world community.

For information on meetings, the "Fools of Conscience" conference, or Taxes for Life!, contact PO Box 7641, Asheville NC 28802, 704-285-0010.

This article is updated from one that appeared in Voices, published by Rural Southern Voice for Peace, 1898 Hannah Branch Road, Burnsville, NC 28714, 704-675-5933.



Taxes for Life! members present \$100 of redirected war taxes to MAGIC, the Mountain Area Gardeners in Communities, as part of their 1995 grants. Photo courtesy of Taxes for Life!

GroundWork welcomes reports on war tax resistance activities around the country. Please add us to your mailing list!

New England WTR Conference — see page 48

Share the Wealth is a national coalition working to focus attention on growing inequality in the U.S. and government subsidies for the wealthy. Too Much is their quarterly commentary on capping excessive income and wealth. Share the Wealth, 37 Temple Place, 3rd floor, Boston MA 02111, 617-423-2148.

Stopping Dioxin EXPOSURE



The Fight for Human Health and Environmental Justice

by Bernadette Del Chiaro

From the same industry that brought us CFC's and ozone depletion comes dioxin, the most toxic synthetic chemical known to humans with health effects so severe that cancer is the least threatening of them.

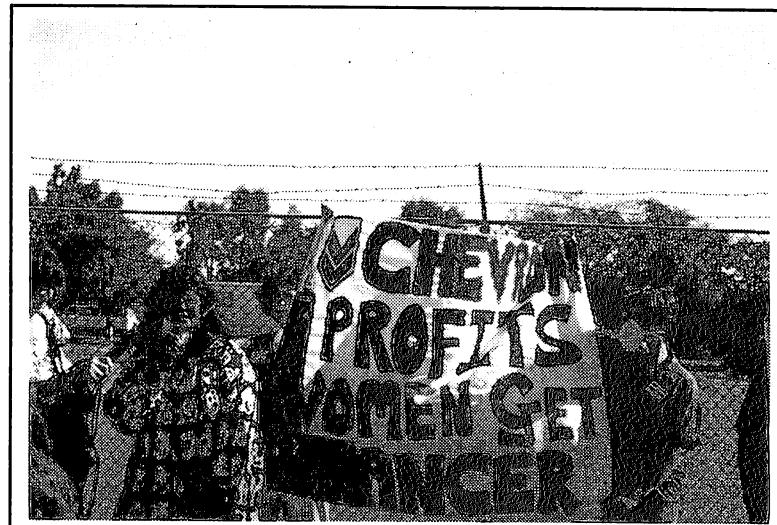
A recent study by the U.S. EPA confirms that dioxin not only causes cancer but causes immune, endocrine (hormonal), and reproductive system damage at exposure levels 100 times lower than those associated with cancer. The study also found that the average American already has reached the maximum "safe" dosage and that further exposure makes serious health effects imminent.

In a report on the environmental impact of persistent toxic substances such as dioxin, the International Joint Commission on the Great Lakes (IJC) stated: "Surely, there can be no more compelling self-interest to force us to come to grips with this problem than the specter of damaging the integrity of our own species

and its entire environment."

The IJC has called for a phase-out of industrial uses of chlorinated chemicals and organochlorines. Dioxin is formed as an unwanted byproduct of any chemical, manufacturing and combustion process involving these

chlorine compounds. Complete elimination of these chemicals from industrial processes is the only solution to the problem. Pollution control technologies



The West County Toxics Coalition in Richmond, California has joined with women's cancer survivors and environmental justice groups to stop the expansion of the dioxin-spewing Chevron Chemical Company hazardous waste incinerator. Photo by Bradley Angel, Greenpeace.

only change the place where dioxin is ultimately released.

Sources of Dioxin

The three main sources of dioxin, as identified by the EPA, are:

- incineration of chlorinated wastes
- chlorine bleaching of pulp and paper
- the manufacture of chlorinated products.

The EPA estimates that 95% of the known dioxin sources involve combustion processes. Medical wastes incinerators account for over half of these sources, with municipal waste incinerators close behind. Cement kilns, hazardous waste incinerators, and coal combustion also contribute..

Not included in EPA estimates, but acknowledged as major sources of dioxin, are the pulp and paper and chemical industries. Communities for a Better Environment also identify oil refineries as a source of dioxin.

The pulp and paper industry is the #1 source of dioxin discharged directly into waterways. Formed as a byproduct of chlorinated chemicals used to bleach pulp, dioxin is also released into the air, soil and

Protest of Dioxin Release from Incinerator

T-BAG Blocks Traffic into Federal Project

By Steve Taylor,
Times Beach Action Group

In opposition to plans to incinerate over 100,000 cubic yards of dioxin-contaminated soil at the former town of Times Beach, Missouri, the Times Beach Action Group (T-BAG) occupied the road leading into the project last July 27th.

The highly-publicized event drew a literal army of St. Louis County tactical squad officers. State Patrol officers were also on standby alert nearby. And the local fire protection district was called to the site "in case things got out of hand".

After a rally, moon-suited radicals and local residents bannered and closed the road. Road flares were put in place, and vehicles foolish enough to attempt entrance to the site were turned away for

an hour and a half.

Ten women and five men were ultimately arrested, as the crowd chanted "Arrest the EPA!" All were later released on their own recognizance.

As reported in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, T-BAG promised to return, next time without warning.

Public opposition to the project has intensified as the agencies involved become more desperate in their attempts to deceive the public as to the "safety" of the project. Public Health officials have falsely testified about dioxin levels, only to be forced to retract their statements when confronted by a Greenpeace scientist who obtained the original data.

Contact T-BAG at 50 Clarkson Center, Suite 493, Chesterfield MO 63017, 314-391-5715.

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Greens Focus on Nuke Waste

Green Notes

The Raritan-Brunswick Greens of New Jersey co-sponsored a public forum at Rutgers University featuring speaker Yvette Michel of the Innu traditionalist group Friends of Nitassinan, who are opposing hydro-electric development in their ancestral lands. Hydro-Quebec is building a dam on Innu lands, which will have devastating impacts on the ecology of the areas and in the Innu's traditional way of life, as vast tracts of wilderness will be flooded. [See *GroundWork* #5.]

The Raritan-Brunswick Greens turned guerrilla gardeners as they began planting a community garden on an unused plot whose owner would not allow it to be used without being paid for it. Daring arrest by local police, the Greens began turning soil, and were soon joined by many volunteers from the local community. Five beds were set up and turned, and no one was arrested.

Raritan-Brunswick Greens, 908-777-2139.

The Lehigh Valley (Pennsylvania) Greens have celebrated the first year of their Lehigh Valley Barter Hours. "Barter Life," listing services needed and offered, is being distributed throughout the area, and the Barter Hours are being accepted by many businesses in the area.

Lehigh Valley Greens have also been involved in the Delaware River Keepers coalition, and in a campaign to stop the spread of "Sprawl-Mart" megastores. "There's More to Life than Cheap Underwear," proclaims a bumper sticker available from the group.

Lehigh Valley Greens, 801 Vernon St, Bethlehem PA 18015.

Austin (Texas) Greens initiated their new local with a "Left Ball," with Emma Goldman's quote as their theme: "If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution." Other local progressive groups were invited to participate, and over 100 people attended. Food Not Bombs provided food, and a beer company donated a keg. Austin Greens have started a newsletter, the *Monthly Sprout*.

Austin Greens, 512-707-0804.

At their 1995 Gathering in New Mexico, and in subsequent meetings at the local and national level, the Greens have taken a stand against transport and dumping of nuclear waste. The multi-faceted campaign include:

- hot cargo waste and trans-shipment
- racist dumping ground issues
- international aid for

nuclear-devastated populations

- opposition to attempts to crush the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty

Greens are working with other anti-nuclear organizers, including Greenpeace, Citizen Alert, and many local groups and networks.

Contact Guy Chichester, 603-964-6158, or the Greens Clearinghouse, 607-756-4211.



Greens in New Orleans Target Corporate Polluter

The Delta Greens and the Loyola Greens (New Orleans) have been organizing around Freeport McMoRan corporation, which has been accused of dumping radioactive gypsum into the Mississippi River. Freeport also has supported the Indonesian government's campaign against neighboring territories of West Papua and East Timor. [See related article, page 47]

The Delta Green Quarterly keeps readers up to date on the Freeport McMoRan campaign as well as New Orleans area Greens' organizing. Available with Membership in the Delta Greens, \$20/year (\$10 low-income).

Contact Delta Greens, 7725 Cohn St, New Orleans LA 70118.

Greens Gathering

August 15-19, 1996
Los Angeles, California

The 1996 Greens Gathering will be held August 15-19 in Los Angeles. The GAthering is a chance for Greens from across the country to network, exchange ideas, and raise energy for the coming year.

Members of Green locals are encouraged to attend, and other interested individuals are also welcome.

For more information, call the Greens Clearinghouse, 607-756-4211.

The Greens Clearinghouse

The Greens Clearinghouse is a national office which coordinates communication among the many Greens locals around the country.

The Greens need your support to continue their work. Memberships are available via active locals, or on an at-large basis. Contact the Greens Clearinghouse, PO Box 100, Blodgett Mills NY 13738-0100, 607-756-4211.

Green Party News

Because of nonprofit restrictions, *GroundWork* does not cover electoral politics. For information on Green Party organizing, contact the Greens Clearinghouse.

GREEN POLITICS

Green Politics is a publication of The Greens, a national activist organization working around the issues of ecology, social justice, nonviolence and grassroots democracies.

Green Politics keeps you up to date on the activities of dozens of Green locals around the country, as well as international Greens and Green Party news.

Subscriptions are free to members of active locals. Supporting subscriptions are also available to non-members, for \$25. Bulk copies \$22/100. The Greens Clearinghouse, PO Box 100, Blodgett Mills NY 13738-0100, 607-756-4211.

Walk Across Florida to Reclaim Earth, Life

As Gandhi walked to the sea to make salt, a substance for life, we walk to reclaim the Earth for life — for the generations yet to come.

Unrestrained growth is killing Florida, and our political system is failing us. We must have a new beginning. One very

good way to start is by working and walking together.

Bobbie C. Billie, spiritual leader of the Independent Traditional Seminole Nation of Florida, will lead the walk that will begin on Highway 41 in the Everglades and 725 miles later reach the state capital

in Tallahassee.

The route of the walk was designed to take us through many communities where poor people are struggling for environmental justice. The Seminoles fight to save their sacred everglades; farmworkers around Lake Okeechobee and in Central Florida are being contaminated with pesticides; Blacks in rural Polk County have phosphate mining going on literally in their front yards.

The walk will challenge the wisdom of urban sprawl and the way our consumptive lifestyle wastes water, a diminishing resource. We will question corporate agriculture's pollution of lakes and rivers and raise the issue of industrial contamination of these water bodies.

We will ask why the Navy must continue to use the Ocala National Forest as a bombing range. Why do we build more and wider roads while public transit and bicycle lanes are virtually ignored by the planners?

We will walk and listen to the people — the people who drink the same water, breathe the same air, and are nourished by the same Earth. As the walk winds its way through the state we plan to hold public meetings to hear and gather testimonies.

We'll ask thousands we meet to share their thoughts and feelings about political and environmental issues. We will carry their words to Tallahassee, sharing them on the way.

We invite you to join us as the walk nears your community. On Saturday, April 13, we invite everyone to join us as we walk the last few miles to the state capital. We will rally together and say that we will not surrender the future of our Mother Earth.

Please join us for a day, walk the whole way, and/or plan to meet us in Tallahassee on April 13. It is a walk for survival!

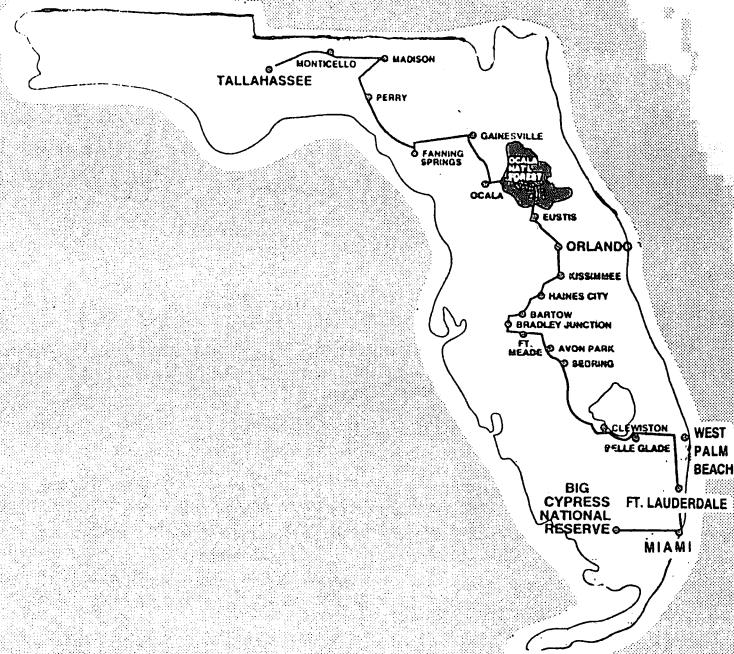


The Walk Across Florida began on February 24, 1996, with 125 people. Thousands of citizens are expected to participate along the route. Here, walkers stop to admire a mural painted in honor of the walk by AWARE, an environmental club at Miami High School. Photo by William Currie.

Thanks to Jan Smiley.

Join the Walk Across Florida!

To get involved, contact the Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice, PO Box 90035, Gainesville FL 32607, 904-468-3295.





Nuxalk Nation and Protecting the Great

by Arielle Stein

photos by Keith Pootlass

Along the west coast of British Columbia, Canada, Native people and forest activists are working together to protect the Great Coast Rainforest, some of the world's largest coastal temperate rainforests.

Huge ancient trees are covered with thick moss. Powerful rivers have carved valleys through the snow-capped mountains. The Great Coast

Rainforest includes a pristine unroaded wilderness area over one million hectares, four times the size of Clayquot Sound.

This old growth forest is home to grizzly bears, wolves, cougars, and many salmon runs. The Great Coast Rainforest is also home to six First Nations people including the Nuxalk Nation, who are dependent on the rivers and forests for their traditional way of life, food, and medicines.

The site is known to the Nuxalk as Ista. It is where the Nuxalk creation stories originate. Here, the first woman was brought to Earth from the Heavens.

Over the next five years, much of this area is slated to be clearcut by International Forest Products (INTERFOR), a multinational logging company. Because this area is not well known, its destruction has faced little resistance from outside the area. The Forest Action Network (FAN), a B.C. based group of forest activists, has begun a campaign to publicize the destructive logging practices and support the Nuxalk Nation who are working hard to resist the destruction of their traditional territories.

In September 1995, FAN and the Nuxalk Nation formed a non-violent blockade of an INTERFOR logging road on King Island west of Bella Coola. Eight people lived in tree-platforms dangling 70 feet high in the trees to block the road construction.

The strength of the action grew as Hereditary Chiefs and Nuxalk elders joined the re-occupation. All were inspired by two women over the age of 75 who hiked one kilometer uphill to defend Ista.

The group shared much in our time together at Ista, catching salmon and crabs, constructing a salmon smokehouse, and collecting Devil's Club plants for tea. We shared songs, dances, stories, drumming,

photos

Upper left and backdrop: Sunrise at Ista

Upper right: Nuxalk rally at Vancouver Supreme Court during trial

Middle right: Native Women block Interfor logging machinery

Lower right: Native Sovereigntists and Forest Action Network at Ista

Coast Rainforest

laughter, and prayer to Tatau, the Creator.

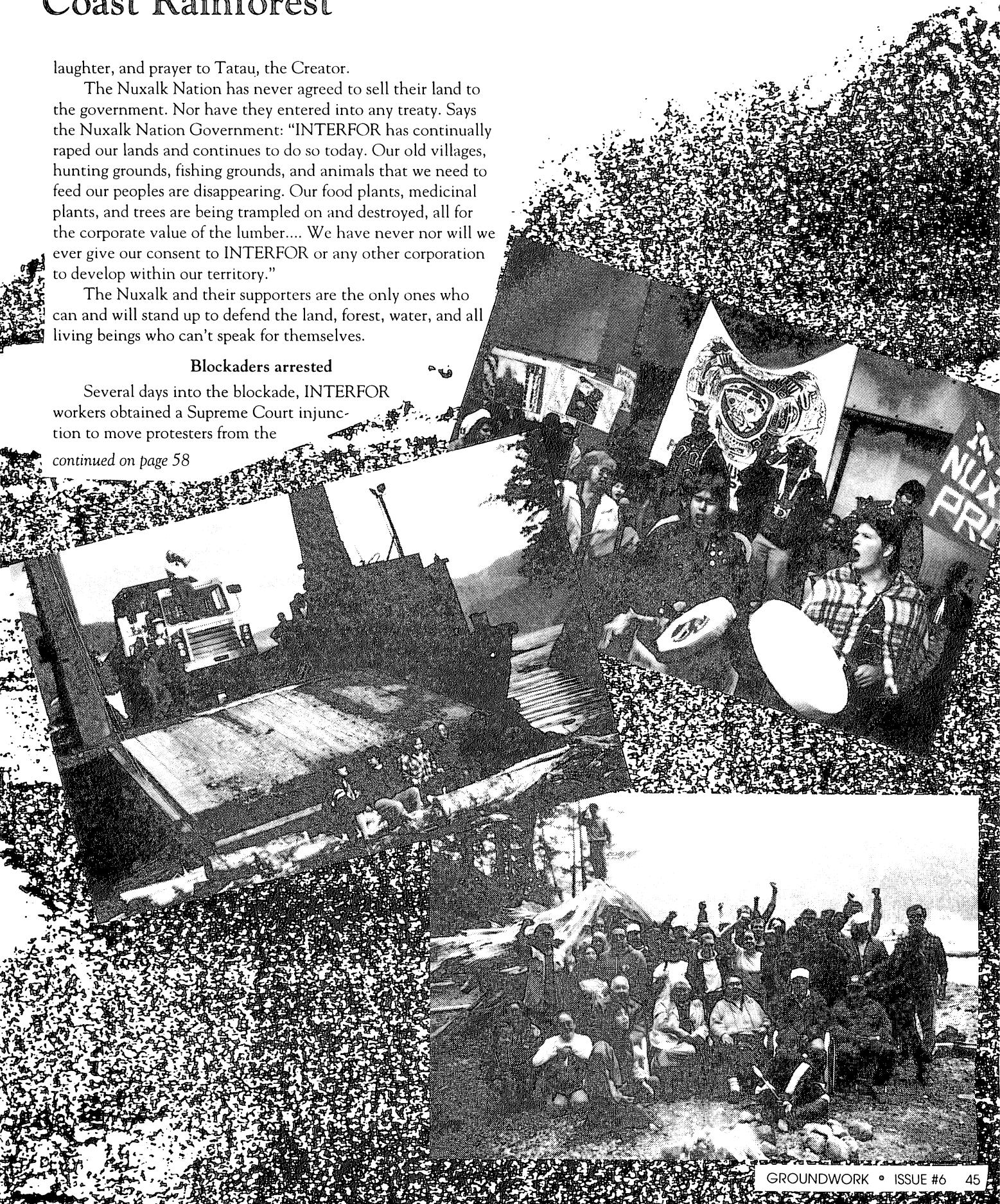
The Nuxalk Nation has never agreed to sell their land to the government. Nor have they entered into any treaty. Says the Nuxalk Nation Government: "INTERFOR has continually raped our lands and continues to do so today. Our old villages, hunting grounds, fishing grounds, and animals that we need to feed our peoples are disappearing. Our food plants, medicinal plants, and trees are being trampled on and destroyed, all for the corporate value of the lumber.... We have never nor will we ever give our consent to INTERFOR or any other corporation to develop within our territory."

The Nuxalk and their supporters are the only ones who can and will stand up to defend the land, forest, water, and all living beings who can't speak for themselves.

Blockaders arrested

Several days into the blockade, INTERFOR workers obtained a Supreme Court injunction to move protesters from the

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Appropriate Technology for Chiapas

Among the political goals of the Zapatista movement in Southern Mexico is Indigenous autonomy. The Mayan people of Chiapas constitute one of the poorest groups in Mexico, and though a large percentage of Mexico's public utilities come from this state, the people have little access to these resources.

This past January, *Intercambio de Tecnología Apropriada* made our first trip as a group to the Chiapas highlands to help install solar panels and a low-tech micro-hydroelectric generator in a small village there. The philosophy behind this work is that the roots of human well-being are in the earth, and the closer to the community these roots run, the stronger the community. By freeing rural populations from

energy dependence on top-heavy

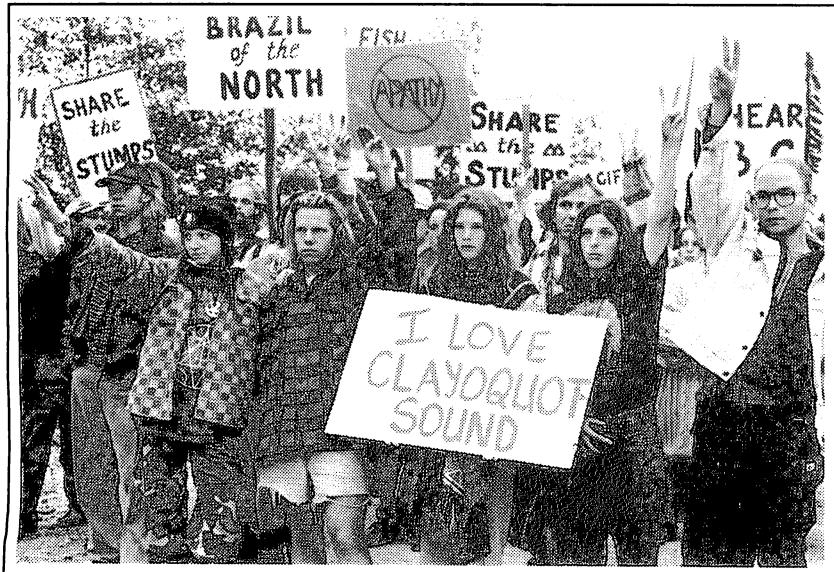
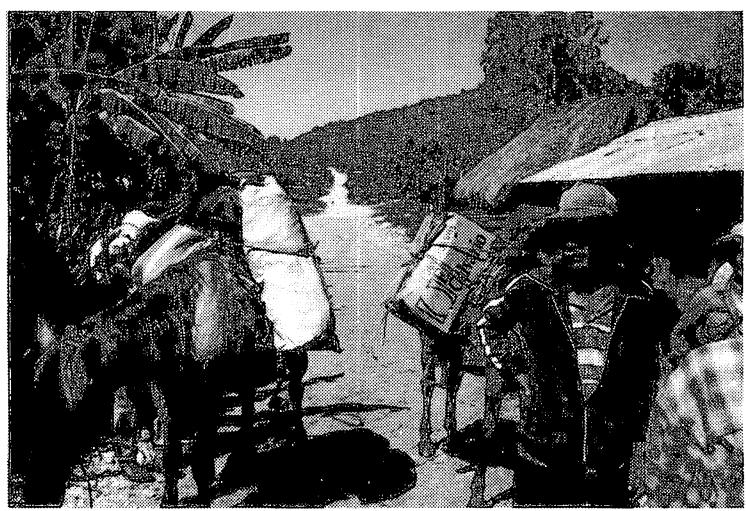
corporate sources, they will be better able to free themselves from dependence on state bureaucracy and external governing bodies.

We will be returning to Mexico soon to set up shop and pursue these projects on a larger scale. We are accepting donations, which will go 100% to field projects, and are tax-deductible.

Queries and donations can be addressed to ITA at 1800 Market St., #235, San Francisco, CA, 94102. Thanks to Jeff Conant and Travis Loller.



Above: surveying a stream for a micro-hydro generator.
Right: Village life in Chiapas. Photos courtesy ATC.



Protests involving hundreds of arrests have been organized over the past several years to defend Clayoquot Sound from clearcutting. New Society Press has recently published a book called *Clayoquot Mass Trials: Defending the Rainforest*. Call NSP, 1-800-333-9093. Photo by Lisa Trembley.

Defending the Ancient Rainforest at Clayoquot Sound

British Columbia is the most biologically diverse region of Canada and contains about half of North America's (and one-quarter of the world's) remaining coastal temperate rainforests. These forests once stretched from California to Alaska. Only about 6% of the B.C. rainforests are protected.

Meanwhile, logging has more than tripled in the past 30 years, and 90% of the logging is done by clearcutting.

The most renowned of B.C.'s forests is Clayoquot Sound, on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Its 650,000 acres host old-growth red cedars, hemlock, spruce and fir, some up to 300 feet tall and 1700 years old. The forest provides habitats a huge variety of wildlife, including wolves, cougars, bald

continued on next page

East Timor: One Large Prison

East Timor has been called "one large prison". My visit last year to that decimated nation confirmed that description.

Even though I had been working for several years on East Timor issues, I was still profoundly unprepared for the physical reality that confronts any visitor to this small, half-island in the lesser Sundra group of the Malay Archipelago.

Indonesia's military occupation is both suffocating and mind-jarringly brutal. The 1975 Indonesian invasion killed an estimated 200,000 East Timorese (one third of the population).

The level of fear is palpable. Timorese young people who talk to foreigners can expect to be picked up almost immediately, interrogated, and beaten. Knowing this, many are nevertheless prepared to pay that high price. An East Timorese theology student recently faced a sentence of 20 years-to-life for sending a fax describing conditions there to a human rights group in another country.

Most East Timorese tend to maintain a vigilant silence. But despite the atmosphere of dread, the truth has started to get out,

primarily because young people are increasingly willing to put their lives on the line.

In response to the recent stepped-up activity of military-related death squads, concerned individuals are asked to call their Senators at 202-221-3121 and urge them to pressure the White House to insist that a permanent United Nations presence be established immediately in East Timor to monitor the situation and provide some measure of protection for the population.

For resources or more information, call 415-474-6219.

by John Chamberlin (edited by GroundWork)



East Timor Religious Outreach sponsored this march, witness and civil disobedience action at the Indonesian Consulate in San Francisco. Photo by Scott Braley.

Clayoquot Sound

continued from preceding page

eagles, black bears, Pacific salmon, and migratory birds.

Protests and boycotts

Corporate and government plans to allow clearcutting of a substantial portion of Clayoquot Sound in 1993 sparked major protests, including a 1993 action where over 900 people were arrested.

The Clayoquot Rainforest Coalition is urging U.S. publishers and printers to boycott coated paper made by MacMillan Bloedel (MacBlo) at Port Alberni. The

Coalition points out that "MB Pacifica" stock is the first paper to come exclusively from ancient rainforests.

MacBlo said in response that the boycott was a "major irritant" since full production had not begun and the company is seeking U.S. customers.

The Coalition includes Greenpeace, Rainforest Action Network, the Natural Resource Defense Council, and the Pacific Environment and Resources Center.

For more information, contact the Clayoquot Rainforest Coalition, 568 Howard St, 3rd Floor, San Francisco CA 94105, 415-512-9025.



Sixteen Arrested in Faith-Based Protest Supporting East Timor

The largest demonstration in support of East Timor ever held in the U.S. took place on November 13, when some 100 people conducted a funeral procession at the Indonesian Consulate in San Francisco. The event commemorated the fourth anniversary of the Santa Cruz massacre, and called attention to the ongoing slaughter in East Timor.

As marchers carrying crosses, signs, and banners proceeded around the building, the names of the more than 270 East Timorese murdered at the Santa Cruz cemetery incident were read to a slow drumbeat. The names of the martyred dead were also written on the sidewalk around the building.

Organized by East Timor Religious Outreach, participants included leaders from the Muslim and Buddhist communities as well as clergy and lay leaders from Protestant

and Catholic churches.

After the Indonesian Consul General refused to come down to accept a letter from a delegation of the religious community, 16 people climbed over the iron fence in an attempt to deliver it. They were quickly arrested by the large number of San Francisco police who had been on the scene since early morning.

Through education, advocacy, and witness, East Timor Religious Outreach works to make the continuing tragedy in East Timor visible to the North American public. Videos and other resources on East Timor are available from 1600 Clay Street, San Francisco CA 94109, 415-474-6219.

Conferences & Calls to Action

New England War Tax Resistance Gathering

by Karen Marysdaughter

On the first weekend of December, about 75 people got together in Deerfield, MA for the 10th annual gathering of war tax resisters in New England.

The Friday evening keynote by Chuck Collins of the group "Share the Wealth" gave us some shocking clarity. With simple charts and human graphs he demonstrated how taxation is transferring money from the rest of us to the extremely rich, at escalating rates. For example, in 1976, the richest 1% of the U.S. population owned 19% of the wealth. In 1995, they owned 40% of the wealth.

Military spending plays a major role in this transfer, as does deficit spending, which is in large part due to military spending.

On Saturday morning we had a panel presentation on the U.S. Peace Tax Fund. If passed into law, the U.S. would be the first country in the world to recognize the right to conscientious objection to paying taxes for war. There would be information in the 1040 instructions going out to millions of people about how to apply for C.O. status. A report would go to Congress every year detailing the numbers of people who used the PTF option.

In the afternoon, five different people who had significantly changed or discontinued their war tax resistance shared the pressures and struggles they faced in their

decision-making. Different factors affecting them included: partners who aren't war tax resisters, children, vocational callings, relationship break-ups, and financial and health concerns. Their stories reflected issues that most of us

have grappled with, and challenged us to think about how we support one another on our WTR journeys.

We had a larger than usual contingent of young people at this year's gathering. They initiated a group discussion about living in a war tax resisting home. Some, but not all, of the young people thought they would be WTRs when they were older if it were still necessary.

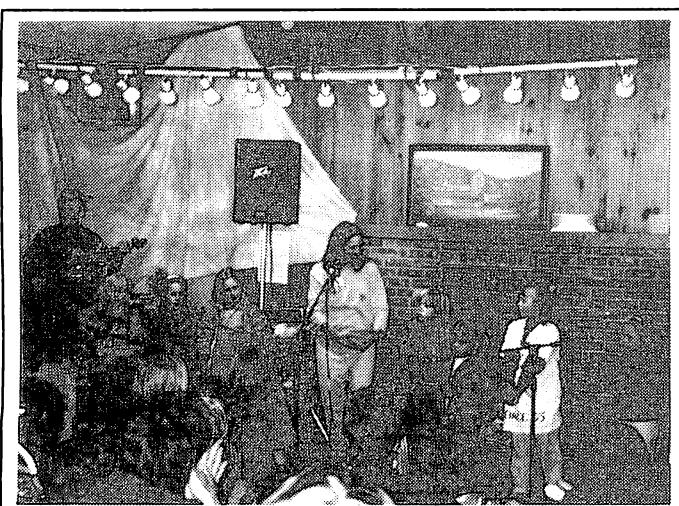
Sunday morning we shared what's been happening in our local areas and



War tax resisters take to the streets — Stations of the Cross, sponsored by Taxes for Life!, tax day 1995, Lancaster PA. Photo by Linda Gehman Peachey. See also page 45.

talked about strengthening our region through organizing ideas and mutual support. The Boston area group agreed to hostess our 1996 gathering. Those who could stay into the afternoon previewed a video documentary titled *An Act of Conscience*, about the Colrain action.

Contact the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee at PO Box 774, Monroe ME 04951, 207-525-7774.. Subscribe to their monthly newsletter, *More Than a Paycheck*, \$10/year.



Patricia Mikkelsen leads children in songs during the Ozark Area Community Congress Coffee House. Photo courtesy OACC.

Ozark Area Community Congress

The 16th annual Ozark Area Community Congress, in September 1995, brought together 149 participants to share ideas and educate themselves on sustainable and healthy living.

The gathering featured numerous workshops, and kids were involved with both fun and educational events.

At one workshop, participants spoke out on the topic of most concern to them. Prominent items were water quality, forest destruction, and planning/zoning issues.

The "family group" concept was used to distribute chores, and to encourage interaction between people who might not otherwise meet each other. This spontaneous sharing of information and networking is one of the most effective elements of OACC in creating positive change in our lives and in our communities.

For information on the 1996 OACC, contact Ozarks Resource Center, Box 3, Brixey MO 65618, 417-679-4773.

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth Fight the Right

Attacks on poor, environment stir calls for unity at annual meeting

With increasing attacks on the poor and minorities, attempts to dismantle protections for everything from human rights to the environment, and the widening economic gap between the wealthy and workers, the citizens gathered at the Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) Annual Membership Meeting in November 1995 joined in one conclusion: KFTC is needed more than ever.

In workshops, speeches and casual conversations, participants recognized the forces that attempt to divide people and keep them from working for a just society. But they also recognized the common struggle they share even within the diversity of issues they are most concerned about.

"I ask people to stand together, and to feel that whatever is fair for you is fair for whoever is sitting behind you, beside you, in front of you," said Betty Boyd of Floyd County. "Human rights is human rights, and every one of us is human first of all, before we are black, before we are white, before we are heterosexual, before we're anything, we're human. Everybody has the same rights."

"If we can't stand together, then we might as well go home, sit down and take whatever comes," Boyd continued. "If we're fighting among ourselves, we have absolutely no chance of fighting the things that really matter to all of us. It may not be your issue today, but it could be your issue tomorrow."

Racial and economic issues, like attacks on affirmative action programs, the trap of low-wage jobs, and blaming others for society's problems are used to divide people, meeting participants heard in several presentations.

"This divide and conquer strategy is an age-old strategy that people at the top have used," said Tyler Fairleigh during a workshop on economic injustices.

Civil rights activist Anne Braden echoed this in the workshop she facilitated on affirmative action as well as in her keynote speech. "Those in power have been able to get by with their abusive

policies because they have been able to convince white people that black people are the cause of our problems," Braden said.

Although racism is not always as overt as it has been throughout the history of this country, it is equally strong and pervasive, Braden and others pointed out.

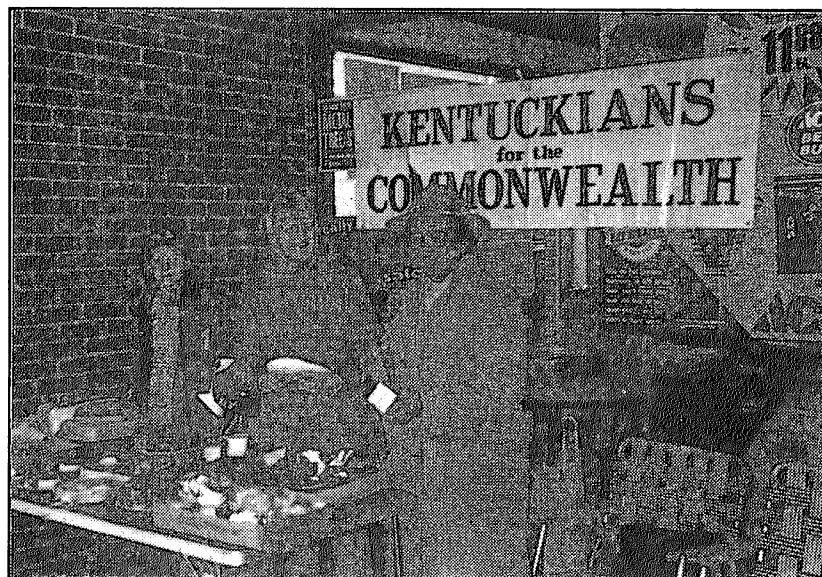
tive industries.

While recognizing the enormity of the struggle ahead, meeting participants said they felt strengthened by the solidarity they felt with others present, and more determined to speak out on where they stand. This was evident in two of the statements added to the KFTC platform

before its approval by those present.

Those

statements were: "We oppose environmental racism and classism," and "We support affirmative action



Holly Bates, Sister Marie Gangwish and Evelyn Williams at bake sale to support Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. Photo courtesy KFTC.

Poverty, lack of formal education, receipt of welfare benefits, sexual preferences, ethnic background and even where one lives are other characteristics used to divide people.

"If we let the right wing — a right wing that is really a front for the wealth in this country — convince us that any of these issues are more important than who owns the wealth, then we are going to be weak," Braden emphasized.

Fighting environmental racism and classism

KFTC members discussed specific ways this strategy is played out in today's political scene: dismantling of environmental protection laws, increased tax breaks for wealthy individuals and corporations, cutbacks or elimination of welfare programs, and economic development policies that recruit low-wage and extrac-

programs that guarantee equal rights for all people."

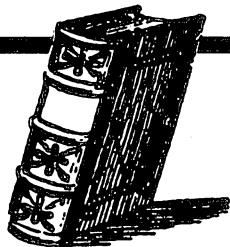
"It is extremely important, with the atmosphere that exists in this country, that we specifically oppose racism," said Jim Branson of Letcher County.

Workshops were held on forestry issues, membership recruitment, money in politics, the coal severance tax and unmined mineral tax, fundraising and lobbying skills. New officers were elected, and members also took time to sing, celebrate, and present awards for outstanding work.

"We've seen some progress. I feel good about what we have accomplished," said Rosebud Taylor of Louisville. "You have to keep fighting, even when you get tired."

Braden left participants with a challenge: "Let's project a vision for what

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insideOUT: a magazine for gay teens

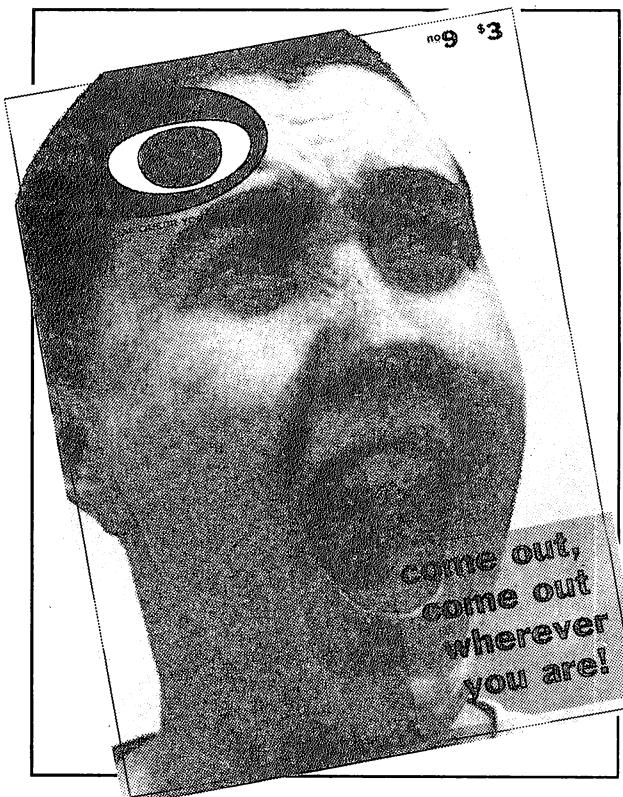
AquaTerra MetaEcology & Culture

by Jacqueline Froelich with
Barbara Harmony

AquaTerra, or WaterEarth, is a participatory text that examines current concepts and research on the blending of metaphysics and ecology, or metaecology. AquaTerra seeks to discover the utility of free will/mind/thought and its influence upon ecological balance and harmony.

A project of the Water Center (Eureka Springs, Arkansas), AquaTerra is a conceptual journey into the undiscovered vastness of human consciousness and its promise toward ecological restoration. Besides being an eclectic compendium of metaecological concepts, it also contains profiles on people's personal relationships with water/earth as well as on emerging sustainable technologies.

Available for \$9.95 plus \$2 shipping (or \$4.95 for orders of 5 or more) from The Water Center, PO Box 264, Eureka Springs, AR 72632, 501-253-9431.



After a year's break, insideOUT is back with a new, glossy format and a revitalized staff. The magazine is aimed at gay teens, and presently has a circulation of more than 3000.

Past issues of insideOUT have covered issues such as teens who dream of running away, safe sex news and research, and personal testimonials.

The latest issue features coverage of college queers, a gay and lesbian prom, and a tongue-in-cheek quiz that asks, "How queer are you?"

Contact insideOUT at PO Box 460268, San Francisco CA 94146-0268. Sample issue \$3, four-issue subscription \$12. Email: <insideOUT2@aol.com>.

Deschooling Our Lives

Edited by Matt Hern
Foreword by Ivan Illich

We all want the best for our children. And a complete education is crucial to our children's future.

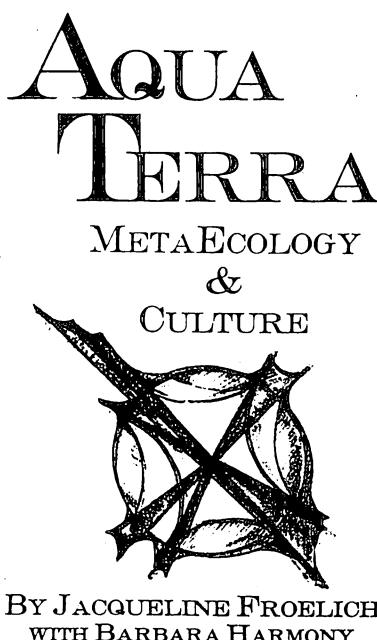
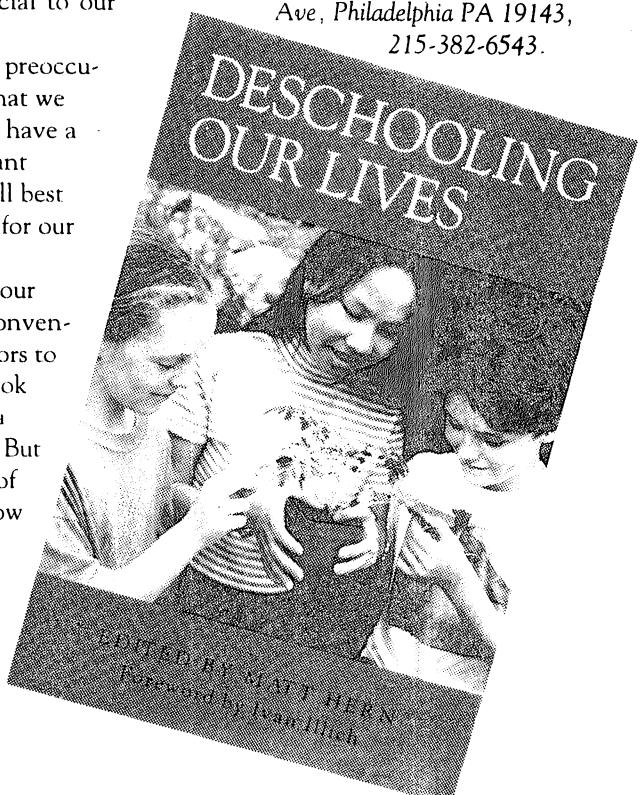
Yet our society has become so preoccupied with the forms of schooling that we have lost sight of what it means to have a "compete" education. The important question is, What environment will best foster healthy, intellectual growth for our children?

Deschooling Our Lives opens our minds to challenge the vision of conventional schooling while opening doors to the alternatives that exist. This book includes many calls for change to a system that is clearly not working. But it also includes working examples of alternatives, choices we can use now for our children as we work for longer-term systemic changes.

The writings collected here include many voices, both classic and contemporary. Deschooling Our Lives is a valuable resource

for all concerned with what and how our children learn.

\$14.95 paperback plus \$3 shipping from New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave, Philadelphia PA 19143, 215-382-6543.



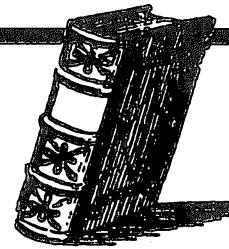
A Book for Midwives

A manual for traditional birth attendants and community midwives

by Susan Klein

Hesperian Foundation, well-known in the world of alternative health for their book *Where There Is No Doctor*, has published *A Book for Midwives*.

This new volume uses simple language and hundreds of drawings to teach midwives and traditional birth attendants how to care for women during pregnancy and childbirth. It includes detailed information on:



Available for \$17. *Where There Is No Doctor* \$13. (CA add 8.25% tax.) Other titles available, some in Spanish. Hesperian Foundation also welcomes donations to its *Gratis Book Fund*, providing free copies to developing countries. Contact 2796 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto CA 94306, 415-325-9017.



- Helping pregnant women stay healthy
- Giving good prenatal care
- Labor, child birth and afterwards
- Complications
- Breast feeding
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Low cost equipment

Greening Cities

Building Just & Sustainable Communities

by Joan Roelofs

This book is a treasure trove of practical ideas that embody Green values of social and environmental justice and are actually working in small, medium and large cities, as well as rural communities, all around the world.

It shows how these values can and are being incorporated in local government policy and how they shape voluntary efforts by community groups.

Topics covered range from urban design, democracy and culture to energy, water, transportation, food, waste, health, economy and recreation.

Originally conceived as workbook for students in urban and environmental studies, *Greening Cities* is must reading for community leaders, activists, and indeed anyone committed to building a more just and sustainable society.

\$24.50 + \$3.50 shipping from Bootstrap Press, 777 United Nations Plaza #3C, New York NY 10017, 1-800-316-2739.

Grassroots &

Nonprofit Leadership

by Berit M. Lakey, George Lakey, Rod Napier & Janice M. Robinson.

Grassroots & Nonprofit Leadership is a management guide for directors, board members, staff people and volunteers of nonprofit, grassroots and service organizations.

The book weaves together theory, experience and context to help leaders deal creatively and concretely with the full range of organizational issues. A practical tool kit, it also clarifies the nature of power and leadership, the stages of social movements, and the social environment in which change organizations exist.

The book will help you build diversity, build a board into a valuable resource, improve morale, plan strategy more dynamically and democratically, turn conflicts into creative and productive outcomes, and more.

Published in cooperation with the Center for Change. Available for \$16.95 + \$3 shipping from New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143, 1-800-333-9093.

CoHousing

CoHousing magazine covers the growing network of cohousing communities, in which individual units cluster around common space and facilities.

Recent issues have covered Harambee Homes in Chicago, where eight families are building their own homes in an inner-city African American neighborhood on the city's west side; Community Builders in Virginia, who plan to build an ecovillage with several cohousing clusters on 400 acres of land in Loudoun County; and the EcoVillage in Ithaca, New York, where 30 homes are expected to be completed by summer 1996.

For information on any of these projects, or to subscribe to CoHousing magazine, contact PO Box 2584, Berkeley CA 94702, 510-526-6124.



Uprooting Racism

How White People Can Work for Racial Justice

by Paul Kivel

"Uprooting Racism is must reading for whites interested in working in alliance with people of color for justice."

— Ron Davis, Program Director, the Highlander Education Center

There is a long tradition of white people opposing racism. But there are also hundreds of excuses we give ourselves for not getting involved. Uprooting Racism is a supportive how-to book designed to help white people act on our conviction that racism is wrong.

This book helps to understand the dynamics of racism in our society, institutions, and daily lives. It features timely discussion of affirmative action, immigration issues, humor, political correctness, and the meaning of whiteness. It includes specific consideration of Latino/a, Asian American, African American, Native American and Jewish issues.

Uprooting Racism will help you intervene strategically wherever racism occurs in public policy, institutional settings, or interpersonal interactions.

\$16.95 paperback plus \$3 shipping. New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave, Philadelphia PA 19143, 215-382-6543.



Nonviolent Alternatives

Nonviolent Alternatives announces three programs for 1996-97:

- Efforts Toward Wholistic Living — four weeks in India (June-July)
- Learning Harmony with the Lakota — three weeks in Lakota Communities (June)
- Alternatives to Violence — three weeks in India (January 1997)

Contact Nonviolent Alternatives, 825 4th St. Brookings, SD 57006, 605-692-3680.

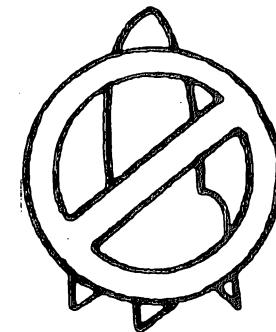
National Space Organizing Meeting & Protest

May 25-27, 1996
Cocoa Beach, Florida

A national gathering of people organizing against the militarization of space will gather in Cocoa Beach, Florida in late May to share information on what is happening as well as develop new strategies for the years ahead.

Among participants will be:

- Dr. Michio Kaku (Professor of Physics, CUNY)
- Karl Grossman (Professor of Journalism, CUNY)
- Dr. Helen Caldicott (Founder, Physicians for Social Responsibility - invited)
- Harvey Wasserman (Senior Advisor, Greenpeace International)
- Bill Sulzman (Citizens for Peace in Space, Colorado Springs)
- Bruce Gagnon (Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice)



On May 26 there will be a demonstration at Cape Canaveral to protest the military takeover of the space program.

Cost for the national meeting will be \$25-35 per person (includes one dinner). The meeting begins Saturday, May 25 at 1 p.m., and concludes Monday, May 27 at 1 p.m. Call to arrange airport pick-ups (Orlando or Melbourne).

Sponsored by the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, PO Box 90035, Gainesville FL 32607, 352-468-3295.

Fighting the Right Turning the Tide

Anti-Racist Action

Turning the Tide is a journal of anti-racist activism, research and education. This quarterly tabloid carries dozens of stories. Recent coverage has included:

- Affirmative Action
- Native Land Struggles
- Mumia Abu-Jamal and other prisoners
- German Fascism
- White Supremacist Movements

Subscriptions are \$15/year individual, \$25 institutions and outside the U.S. Additional donations are encouraged. Sample copy \$4. Contact People Against Racist Terror, Box 1990, Burbank CA 91507, 310-288-5003. Email: <mnovickttt@igc.apc.org>.



ARA News reports on resistance to racism and other prejudice in the U.S. Coverage also includes

research and news on homophobia, anti-semitism, and other forms of prejudiced violence.

The paper includes many local stories, often xeroxed directly out of hometown newspapers. An excellent nationwide survey of the topic.

Contact ARA, PO Box 02097, Columbus OH 43202.

Mumia Abu-Jamal Update

In September 1995, Judge Sabo denied Mumia's petition for a new trial, rejecting claims of constitutional violations. Sabo, who presided over the original trial, ignored Mumia's evidence that police intimidated and silenced key defense witnesses, while coercing others to frame him for the murder of a police officer.

Supporters of Mumia are urging people to write U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno demanding a Department of Justice investigation into the case.

An economic boycott of Pennsylvania has also been called. Organizers ask that people call 1-800-VISIT-PA and tell them you are boycotting Pennsylvania to protest the death penalty and the unjust conviction of Mumia.

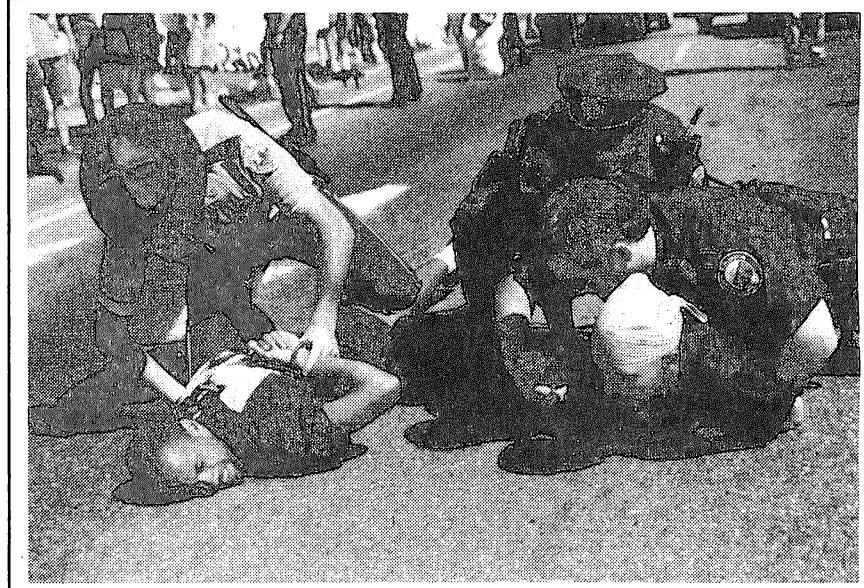
For more information, call International Concerned Family & Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal, 215-476-8812, or contact the San Francisco Bay Area Network for Mumia, 415-648-4505.

Anything That Moves

Anything That Moves bills itself as The Magazine for the Bisexual-at-Large. "We deliberately chose the radical approach," say the editors "We are challenging people to fight their own external or internal biphobia. We are frustrated by the imposed isolation and invisibility of being told or being expected to choose either a homosexual or heterosexual identity. Read our lips: We will print *anything that moves* us beyond the limiting stereotypes that are displaced onto us."

The magazine is created by bisexuals and their friends. Issue #10 appeared in Winter 1996, and is available at finer newsstands, or by subscription, 4 issues for \$25 individual, \$60 institutions, \$16 low income.

Bay Area Bisexual Network, 2404 California St #24, San Francisco CA 94115.



Police arrest and attempt to subdue two pro-Mumia activists during a road blockade in front of the Sheraton hotel as President Clinton addressed the National Governors' Conference in Burlington VT. The Governors' Conference last summer was met by four days of protests from supporters of Mumia Abu-Jamal, resulting in 24 arrests. Photo by Orin Langelle/NFN.

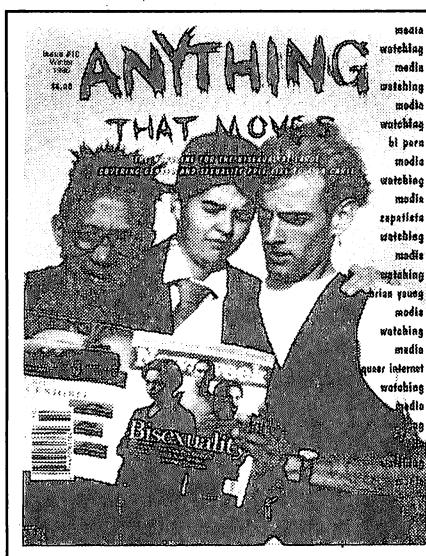
International Peacemaking Teams

Peaceworkers is calling for volunteers to build peacemaking teams prepared to go into conflict areas around the world and work with local groups on all sides, sharing skills in active peace making.

The group assists the United Nations Volunteer program in building a partnership with experienced nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to identify, recruit and train skilled nonviolent practitioners to participate in UNV pilot projects in nonviolent peacemaking.

Peacemakers works with other international groups such as Witness for Peace, Peace Brigades International, Quakers and others.

Both volunteers and contributions are needed. For more information, contact Peaceworkers, 721 Shrader, San Francisco CA 94117. 415-751-0302.



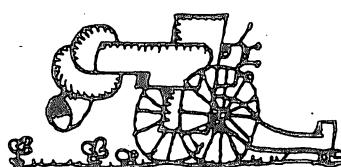
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Brookings, SD 57006, 605-692-3680.



Round Valley

continued from page 18

friend. Fearing for his life after being branded a cop killer, Bear managed to hide out deep in the forest for four months. On May 5, under request from Mendocino County Sheriff Jim Tuso, California governor Pete Wilson posted a \$100,000 reward, and crews from TV's "America's Most Wanted" arrived in town to stage a "reenactment," despite vociferous protest from local residents and supporters in other parts of the country.

Bear emerged to turn himself in on August 16, 1995, at the San Francisco offices of famed attorney Tony Serra, who had joined the case. The event was punctuated by prayers, drumming and singing, and speakers including Nilak Butler, Native American activist who observed, "This didn't just start. This started several generations ago. When I hear the stories of what's going on up at Covelo now, it's the same thing as Pine Ridge in 1975. This is one more episode in the continuing genocide." When he emerged from the back room in a blue ribbon shirt with a feather in his hair, Bear's words were few. "Leonard Peters and I were ambushed," he said in a soft voice. "I'm here to prove my innocence."

Since August, Bear has been held in a jail cell in Ukiah, California, awaiting trial. A defense fund has been set up for Bear, and other avenues of resistance are opening up. The federal Dept. of Justice was petitioned to intervene, the Tribal Council appealed to the Dept. of the Interior, and the County Board of Supervisors saw their chambers overflow on several occasions. With the formation of the Round Valley Community Support Coalition, Earth First!, the Mendocino Environmental Center, and the Civil Liberties Monitoring Project came together to support the community and monitor the situation. Inside the Round Valley community, residents formed Round Valley Indians for Justice.

Representatives from several state and federal agencies came sniffing around, conducted interviews, but thus far to no avail, in terms of getting any kind of independent investigation. However, long-time San Francisco civil rights attorney Dennis Cunningham recently filed preliminary papers for a class action lawsuit, alleging violation of constitutional, civil and human rights, false arrest and assault. The Lincoln

family, probably the most overtly political of Round Valley's families, has been targeted in the past and most recently by an early morning raid on the home of Pat and Edwinna Lincoln and their children. Says Edwinna, "The government and law enforcement... do not want cultural, traditional people. Anyone who stands up to believe in and continue on the tradition of our people, and tries to bring back the language, the government doesn't want that. They feel they have a right to get rid of us."

The case of Bear Lincoln is proceeding into pre-trial motions and may go to trial as early as May. The court heard chilling testimony from the taped interview of Deputy Miller shortly after the shootings. He tripped over his words and stammered that after putting his M-16 on automatic, he lost sight of Deputy Davis, then stumbled on the dirt road. When he regained his balance, he saw in the dark Deputy Davis slumped on the ground, fatally wounded, near Peters' body. Though he never saw Bear, his testimony was used to indict Bear in Davis' killing. A weapon linked to Bear has not been recovered.

Besides the state of siege imposed on the reservation in their frantic search for someone to pin a cop's death on, the authorities have ignored subsequent violence in the community. It would seem the police feel they can act with impunity in this rural area, removed from the glare of public view. What will shine the light of day on their outrageous practices is attention from outside this pocket of what used to be paradise.

The Round Valley Community Support Coalition consists of organizations and individuals supporting people in the Round Valley Community. They can be reached c/o the Mendocino Environmental Center, 106 W. Standley, Ukiah, CA 95482. Round Valley Indians for Justice is at P.O. Box 814, Covelo, CA 95428 / 707-983-8098. Bear Lincoln's Defense Fund is c/o Law Offices of Tony Serra, Pier 5, the Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA 94111

Indian Forests

continued from page 19

paper mill expansions.

• Eyak Forests, Alaska. Eyak Territory has been the site of struggle between a tribal corporation and traditional leadership. The ecosystem faces the specter of

clearcutting. Thousands of acres of Eyak forests are gone, and thousands more are targeted for clearcutting. This cutting affects hundreds of traditional sites, burial grounds, and subsistence fishing camps.

• Dine (Navajo) Forests. Dine CARE has worked to alter the forestry practices of Navajo Forest Products Industry (NFPI). Among the problems was that there had been no replanting up to 1975. In 1981, it was estimated that it would take 160 years of concerted regeneration to return the forests to a situation of sustainable yield. Dine CARE has made enemies, and before his death (see above), Leroy Jackson had been hanged in effigy by loggers angry at layoffs. However, the NFPI Chairman of the Board conceded that mismanagement rather than environmentalists were responsible for the layoffs. Dine CARE has proposed integrated forestry management, based on sustainable and culturally sensitive practices, and on reforestation.

Tribal sovereignty and cultural survival

The battle continues and it is not a pretty sight. The Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to help tribes evade the Endangered Species Act. Dine CARE has charged that BIA forestry practices are based on "industrial models," which do not reflect traditional culture and represent only pro-development segments of the Native community. "Sovereignty comes from within, (yet) policies reflect the European/American lack of respect for the environment," says a statement by Dine CARE.

Responding to the BIA's assertion that the endangered owls are held in low esteem, the Dine CARE statement continues:

"The owl is an integral part of our culture. It is true that the owl has negative connotations in Navajo philosophy, but it is not 'negative' in the sense of low esteem, as the (BIA) letter asserts. Negative and positive, the aggressive and the passive, the male and the female are complementary parts of the whole. Without one part, the whole is incomplete. The owl is a messenger. Its presence in the woods is certainly no cause for fear or negative feelings.... As animals of the woods, they are part of the connected web of life. And they are vital parts of our cultural and ritual life."

Forestry for the seventh generation

There are sustainable forestry models, and they are Native.

The Menominee reservation stands out as a dark mass in mostly-clearcut northern Wisconsin. For 135 years, the Menominee people have worked to manage their forests. 220,000 acres are under management, and employ almost half of the people on the reservation. In the past 135 years, 2 billion board feet of timber have been harvested. Yet the forests are estimated to be as dense and healthy as in 1865. This accomplishment is viewed as "a model for the seventh generation."

Grand Portage reservation, nestled at the tip of Lake Superior, has a similar story. All 56,000 acres of the reservation is wooded. Responding to BIA's proposed "upgrade" of the tribe's forestry plan, Rick Novinsky, Tribal Forester, says, "We wanted to look at things in a holistic way. Timber, recreation, wildlife, resources — and manage each one with the others in mind."

The program set aside land into distinct designations — recreation, wildlife, and forestry, and mapped a program based on the reality that there are more moose than people in the county. When approached by timber interests to expand their mill capacity and double shifts, the Grand Portage Tribal Council basically shrugged. "The tribe should determine their agenda for the forests, and their mill. It shouldn't be driven by outside interests. These are, after all, our trees, and our land...."

There is indeed much which may be learned from our own experience, and much at stake.

There are also larger discussions, in which Native people need to be heard. For instance, "demand" for forest products is driven by consumption, or more appropriately, "overconsumption." The U.S. consumes seven times as much wood products per capita than any other country. Is that a good use of our forests?

And a good portion of North American wood goes off the continent as a raw product, meaning that neither Indians nor any other timber-dependent community captures much "value added" for that wood. Those supplementary jobs go elsewhere.

Finally, there is the issue of "sacrifice areas". While some "American forests" may be protected by current government policy, is it fair that tribes should be pressured to cut, or that tribal areas in Canada should be clearcut to supply U.S. sawmills?

For over a hundred years, our people have fought to protect our forests, recog-

nizing in them medicinal plants, animal relations, and the knowledge of generations of ancestors. There are many who will argue that we are those forests. Over time, some of the nuances have changed, yet the questions and challenges remain the same. We need now to face the challenges in our own communities, with the honesty and courage our ancestors have had.

Perhaps a Central American Indigenous leader summarized it best:

"The difference between a white man and an Indian is this: A white man wants to leave money to his children. An Indian wants to leave forests...."

Leroy Jackson would probably agree.

Winona LaDuke is the Campaign Director of the White Earth Land Recovery Program. She can be contacted via the Seventh Generation Fund, 218-573-3049.

Immigration

continued from page 23

Funders of CCN, PEB, CAPS, and NPG, including the Laurel Foundation, S. H. Cowell Foundation, and Weeden Foundation, also support the work of FAIR and English-only organizations. Since 1988, FAIR has received over \$600,000 from the Pioneer Fund, which according to *The San Francisco Chronicle* (3/30/94) is "a New York organization that finances research seeking proof of genetic superiority of the white race." The Pioneer Fund also supports Hardin's work and *Mankind Quarterly*, a journal widely cited in *The Bell Curve* and dedicated to proving white supremacy.

These connections between racists, eugenicists, and population control advocates have real impacts. Some population control efforts in the developing world have had extremely perverse outcomes, harming women and the poor. Cases of involuntary sterilization or the forced use of unsafe contraceptives have been widely documented by Betsy Hartmann in *Reproductive Rights and Wrongs*. For example, by 1968 more than 35 percent of women in Puerto Rico were sterilized in a program that was carried out because population was seen as being greater than available resources. More than 215,000 Puerto Rican women were sterilized from the 1950's to the 1970's. Even the U. S. government has acknowledged that Native-American women and poor Alabamans were sterilized without proper consent.

A Humane Perspective on Population and Immigration

As long as population issues are framed in numerical terms with simple formulas like I=PAT, it is likely that population policies will continue to be coercive and counter-productive to social justice. Controlling population growth is not a value-neutral, scientific problem but a political one with real social impacts. Social scientists Lourdes Arizpe and Margarita Velazquez write in *Population and Environment: Rethinking the Debate* that the population issue "cannot be limited to population size, density, rate of increase, age distribution and sex ratios, but must also include access to resources, livelihoods, social dimensions of gender, and structures of power."

Population growth may not be a root cause of environmental degradation at all, but rather an effect of inequities in wealth and power. For example, studies have shown that additional children are economically valuable to poor families. A son in Bangladesh contributes more to his family than he consumes by age twelve. There is growing evidence that access to a basic diet, education, and health care will help stabilize population size and, hence, defuse the "population bomb." Amartya Sen's work shows that in the Indian state of Kerala, where there is a strong commitment to secure basic resources for all residents, the average fertility rate of 1.8 children per woman is lower than in the U. S. Meanwhile, in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan, all states with very low levels of education and health care, the fertility rate remains between 4.4 and 5.1 children per woman.

Bringing Environmentalists and Immigrants Together

People who genuinely care about the environment should not be trading away immigrants' rights to preserve "our quality of life." Reducing immigration will not solve environmental problems, but will militarize borders, criminalize migrants, and increase the divide between haves and have-nots. A true ecological approach, one that sees everything is connected to everything else, broadens environmental concerns to include human rights, health, and livelihood issues. At a time when protections for immigrants and the environment are on the chopping block, a progressive coalition is needed

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Immigration

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more than ever. Immigrants are at the forefront of many struggles around environmental justice in the fields, factories, and neighborhoods and are essential allies in the environmental movement.

To contact the Political Ecology Group, see page 23 or call 415-777-3488.

Peoples Park

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purchase the Park from the University. The town is tired of UC-caused riots. We need to move in the direction of the city or a land trust buying the Park."

Nadel and others have initiated a merchants' petition and an international pledge drive toward that end. Hundreds of merchants from all over town have signed petitions calling for the city government to "expedite the purchase of Peoples Park from the University."

Park organizers have also set up a "user-developed" internet web site, helping spread the word around the globe. Aaron Handel, who helped set up the site, said that it already contained news and updates as well as vintage Park leaflets, articles and essays.

Through all of the politicking, through all of the fighting, said Stephens, one fact remains:

"It has never mattered what the UC regents want. The only impact the regents can have is whether or not we have a peaceful future. The University doesn't own the Park. They owned a hole in the ground, a vacant lot. The community built Peoples Park. It belongs to Berkeley and the world."

Contact the Religious Coalition with the Homeless at 510-848-6491. East Bay Food Not Bombs can be reached at 510-644-4187 or 510-540-0751 (The Long Haul).

The Peoples Park web site can be reached at: http://www.dnai.com/~hi_there/people's_park.html

Food Not Bombs Updates

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people on Saturdays, and the number is expected to grow as word spreads. Members of Long Beach and San Bernardino FNB assisted with obtaining food and cooking along with Seeds of Peace, CHAOS, FNB San Diego and others during the weeklong encampment at Ward Valley

(See story, page 37) and have helped with food runs for the permanent encampment that has continued at the proposed nuclear dump site there. Contact AAG, PO Box 3223, Running Springs CA 92382.

Two members of the Lower East Side (NYC) Food Not Bombs have moved to the Bronx and started a Food Not Bombs/Homes Not Jails group there. They have been distributing food to soup kitchens, squats and churches in the Bronx and Manhattan every Friday, and are planning to start cooking meals. They are also working on a squat project, and are looking for others in the Bronx to help organize. Bronx FNB/HNJ are offering reprints of two squatting handbooks, *Survival without Rent* and *The ABC's of Squatting*. Write for copies, and include a donation if possible. Bronx FNB, PO Box 528, Bronx NY 10454.

Soupstock, San Francisco Food Not Bombs' free spring concert, will be held at the Golden Gate Park bandshell, Saturday, April 27, 1996, from noon to 6pm. Information and craft tables are welcome. Call 415-985-7087.

Much of the information for the Food Not Bombs pages comes from *Food Not Bombs Menu*, a 50-page newsletter that consists of reprinted news items, flyers, local updates, and letters about the international Food Not Bombs community. Local groups are invited to send materials for future editions. Each FNB group has been sent a free copy of past issues, but the cost is adding up to about \$300 per issue. Coordinators ask that each chapter send in \$3 per issue to help with the cost, but groups that cannot pay will still receive a copy.

Contact *FNB Menu*, 3145 Geary Blvd #12, San Francisco CA 94118.

Food Not Bombs Gold

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FNB bulletins will be played continuously over the radio. FNB will seek airtime on global TV to declare that America should be ashamed for neglecting its poor, sick and homeless.

1995 Gathering Exposes United Nations

The Second International Gathering was held last June in San Francisco, at the same time as the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations was being commemorated. FNB publicly exposed the UN's failure to uphold its own Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which

states that every human being has the right to food, clothing, housing and medical care.

FNB threatened to spoil the UN's party, so former mayor Frank Jordan used his riot squad to try to keep "social problems" like homelessness and FNB out of sight.

Atlanta FNB operates legally

Unlike its San Francisco counterpart, Atlanta FNB has had no problems with the police. The group has served about 30 hot vegetarian meals in the past year, totaling about 2000 people.

Many volunteers are needed to serve meals, and to make the Third International Gathering happen. Join our celebration! We will "speak truth to power," and have lots of fun doing it.

Call Atlanta FNB at 404-524-2147, or the International hotline, 1-800-884-1136. This article is edited from the *Atlanta Street Heat*, September 1995.

Military Waste

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and existing documentation suggests that the change is a mistake.

Because of criticism of its new plan, DOE has agreed to add an "alternative path" to full privatization, which it will pursue if its primary plan fails. Unfortu-

Conference on Genetic Engineering in Food and Agriculture

May 25-26
San Francisco

The California Biotech Action Coalition and the Council for Responsible Genetics are sponsoring a Conference on Genetic Engineering in Food and Agriculture. The conference covers issues of consumer safety, environmental impacts, effects on family farms, and corporate ownership and patents on life forms.

Co-sponsors of the conference include Farmer to Farmer, Pesticide Action Network, Food First, and Earth Island Institute. Conference registration is \$10 for one day, \$15 for both, half price for students and seniors. Scholarships and child care are available.

For pre-registration or more information contact 415-522-0352.

nately, DOE alone decides when and if failure has occurred. In addition, after the 1st small vitrification plant is built, DOE and the State of Washington would have to re-open negotiations for the rest of the program.

Clearly, local communities and the Columbia River ecosystem are being offered a much poorer deal than a year ago. Continued citizen pressure will be needed to recover what is being lost.

Info: HEAL, 509-326-3370.

Street Papers

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homeless and formerly homeless people, representatives of service, shelter, and housing providers, advocacy groups, and neighborhood and religious organizations. It does not receive government funds. Street Sheet circulation is 34,000 copies monthly, with 2,500 mailed out, 1,000 distributed to shelters, and 30,500 sold by homeless people on the street as an alternative to panhandling.

Street Sheet Project volunteers, working out of the Coalition office, give out papers to 30 vendors each day, who sell them for up to \$1 a copy. Homeless vendors keep all the proceeds from their sales, earning money for food, clothing, housing, transportation, medical, and other survival necessities. The Street Sheet provides an opportunity for homeless people to earn cash for up to one month while making the Coalition's paper available to the general public to raise awareness about homelessness.

For vendors familiar with the dehumanizing process of obtaining public assistance, bureaucratic red tape is kept to a minimum. There are no forms, few rules, and no requirements except need. Vendors are asked to check in every few days and not to show up drunk or high.

The Street Sheet' writers — Coalition staff, volunteers, activists, and the homeless themselves — tend to be highly critical of city and state policies on homelessness. San Francisco Chronicle columnist, Herb Caen, writes in his April 20, 1992 column (referring to the Street Sheet), "Not a bad sheet either. Sort of feisty in the old I.W.W. 'Wobbly' tradition — refreshing in these strangely non-ideological times."

In an article in Mediafile by Carol Oppenheimer in April/May 1991, San

Francisco Chronicle reporter Mark Sандалов agrees that the Chronicle doesn't cover homelessness as fully as it might. But he adds, "there is no conspiracy in the mainstream media to keep homeless issues out of the news." Instead he suggests an editorial policy that is subtly market driven. "The editors are more likely to pick up a story on how homelessness is affecting shoppers or downtown workers than they are one about the plight of the homeless. It [the Street Sheet] covers the stories the mainstream press isn't interested in."

(Thanks to Ken Wong, Alex Vitale, Dana Schuerholz & Bob Darby)

Homes Not Jails

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tragic absurdity of homelessness in their cities for the "holiday".

We made giant, stenciled banners, and painted black and white picket signs adorned with cute house icons for a down-home (pun intended) kind of image. We also arranged for the presence of giant puppets from the Free Puppet Library for the march, and organized a well-attended non-violence training at a local dance studio.

On the day of the action, we marched down Yuppie-Shopping-From-Hell (Newbury) Street and busy Mass. Ave., chanting "Homes Not Jails, People Not Profits!" and "Housing cutbacks by the hour, we say no, fight the power!"

The occupation group awaited our arrival at the abandoned home, then threw down the aforementioned banners from the roof and windows. Folk singers, speakers, and picketers created a colorful demo out front. Many neighbors and folks driving by took info flyers. The Boston media were present in large numbers and conducted in-depth interviews with several HNJ members, taking special note of the shocking statistics around abandoned housing.

The cops were not amused, but they behaved themselves as they tried to negotiate our removal. After some peaceful negotiations, our mission for our first action accomplished, the brave and stalwart occupiers left the building, and we all went out to celebrate and of course discuss the next action. As Theo (from the Boston Commune) said at the end of the demo, "This is only the beginning!"

Contact Boston Homes Not Jails at 617-522-6817.

Dioxins

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paper products themselves.

The chemical industry is another major source of dioxin. As the manufacturer of chlorine, a process that in itself forms dioxin, and numerous chlorinated products, the chemical industry is the ultimate source of industrial dioxin pollution. A recent Greenpeace report points out that Dow Chemical Company, as the world's #1 producer of chlorine and chlorine-based chemicals, is also likely the world's #1 root industrial source of dioxin..

Dioxin formation is inevitable throughout the entire life-cycle of chlorine-based products such as pesticides, herbicides, solvents, and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastics. PVC plastic is of special concern since it is widely used, from the making of Barbie dolls to construction materials. It is, in fact, the large amounts of PVC that make medical and municipal incinerators such large sources of dioxin.

Impacts of Dioxin

Dioxin and dioxin-like chemicals, such as PCB's and furans, are considered the most toxic substances for humans. These chlorine by-products are known as "environmental hormones" because they disrupt the complex network of natural hormones that govern sexual and embryonic development.

A 1992 study found that men in western countries have half the sperm count that their grandfathers had at the same age and that testicular cancer has increased four-fold since 1940. Increased rates of breast cancer in women, infertility, and birth defects have also been linked to dioxin exposure.

Reinforcing the connection between human and environmental health, the EPA identifies food consumption as the most common path by which humans are contaminated with dioxin. Causing developmental and reproductive damage in animal populations along the way, dioxin bio-accumulates in the fatty tissue of animals and is passed on to humans mainly through fish, meat and dairy products.

Dioxin is also environmentally persistent. Even if we were to stop producing it today, dioxin would remain in the environment seven generations into the future.

Dioxin and Environmental Justice

While everyone is a victim of dioxin

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Dioxins

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pollution, communities of color and poor people are disproportionately impacted by dioxin sources in their communities. According to census data, communities with industrial sources of dioxin (i.e., incinerators, PVC manufacturing facilities, and Southern pulp and paper mills) have a 50-100% higher "non-white" population than average.

Asian-Pacific Islanders and Native Americans have elevated exposure rates, due mainly to the high amounts of fish consumed from contaminated waters. In areas such as the San Francisco Bay and the Great Lakes, subsistence fishermen are warned not to eat locally caught fish more than twice a month. Pregnant women are advised not to eat the fish at all.

Due to sustained exposure to chlorinated pesticides and herbicides, male farm-workers have up to six times higher rates of dioxin associated cancer than average.

History of Dioxin

The dangers of dioxin were first revealed in the 1930's, when Monsanto chemical workers developed chloracne and other symptoms of toxic chemical exposure. In 1971, when 2,000 gallons of dioxin-containing waste oil were sprayed on farm fields near Times Beach, Missouri, forcing evacuation of the entire town and the death of many animals. Today, members of Times Beach Action Group are fighting an incinerator, proposed to "clean up" the contaminated soil, that will result in even more dioxin pollution. [See story, page 41.]

Dioxin was the active ingredient in Agent Orange, used by the U. S. government during the Vietnam War to defoliate the jungle. This chlorine-based chemical is leaving a deadly legacy of cancer and other health impacts among both the Vietnamese and U. S. soldiers exposed.

Communities Continue to Fight

While the EPA continues to try to establish politically tolerable levels of exposure, community groups nationwide are joining with environmental groups like Greenpeace and Citizens Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste to stop dioxin pollution.

- Across the country, community groups like those in East Liverpool, Ohio, and Jacksonville, Arkansas, continue their

fight against nearby hazardous waste incinerators that spew dioxin and other contaminants like lead, arsenic and mercury into their air.

- The struggle of the Bronx Clean Air Coalition, a diverse network of concerned citizens, against a medical waste incinerator since 1991 has brought the issue of environmental racism and injustice to the forefront in New York City.

- In Richmond, California citizens are fighting to block the state EPA from rubber-stamping yet another permit expansion for the incinerator operated by Chevron. West County Toxic Coalition (WCTC) are calling for zero dioxin emissions from the incinerator and stronger pollution prevention programs.

- WCTC joins with Greenpeace and other California community and environmental groups to begin a statewide alliance for zero dioxin exposure.

- Due to large amounts of dioxin from the pulp and paper industry, Greenpeace also continues to pressure Time Magazine to keep its promises of switching to chlorine-free paper.

More information and resources are available from the Greenpeace Chlorine-Free campaign, part of Greenpeace's work in over 30 countries around the world. Contact Greenpeace, 415-512-9025.

GroundWork Update

Over 600 community and environmental justice activists, representatives of environmental organizations, and scientific experts gathered in Baton Rouge the weekend of March 15-17 for the Citizens Dioxin Strategy, for education and long-term planning to stop the dioxin threat. Call 415-512-9025 for more info.

Kentuckians

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we want this country to be, a vision for a whole new society. I believe that nothing can stop us from building, all across this nation, a movement that will truly create a new day for all of our children and grandchildren."

From Balancing the Scales, published by KFTC, PO Box 1450, London KY 40743, 606-878-2161. Subscriptions are \$15/year.

Cove/Mallard

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wielding his gun.

When the real local sheriff's deputies arrived, instead of trying to de-escalate the situation, one of them actually kicked an unstable tripod leg, endangering the sitter's very life, and shouted, "You're coming down one way or the other."

Clearly, the safety of people compelled to act from conscience was not a priority of the law enforcement officers. And democracy and fairness only apply to the powerful — in this case, the United States Forest Service and the timber industry. And the public — especially those individuals opposing the destruction of our last wilderness areas — ultimately get treated as if they are the criminals for speaking their minds.

Monitoring at Cove/Mallard

Activists have slipped past the official lines, however, monitoring riparian areas and timber sales in Cove/Mallard. They have found several violations:

- "Buffers" are protective strips on either side of riparian areas that are not to be cut. Several riparian areas had buffers that were about one-third of the width required by law. Trees were cut that were supposed to be left standing.

- Several streams had immense quantities of gooey sediment in them. This was clearly due to the road; above the road, streams were clear; below the road, they were filled with muck.

- Several acres were added to cutting units without the environmental analysis required by law.

- Some sale units include old growth spruce, fir, and larch. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) states that no old growth is to be cut in these units.

- The Forest Service hydrologist recommended that road construction in the Jack Sale be modified in order to meet water quality requirements to protect chinook salmon. Road building was not halted.

These illegalities and problems violate the agreement between the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Nez Perce National Forest (NPNF), the timber sale contract, and various environmental laws. The NPNF, by law, must monitor watersheds annually. According to employees of the NPNF, little or no

monitoring has occurred.

The Forest Service's Response to Documentation of Violations

On July 30, 1995, a letter signed by nine local environmental groups was sent to Forest officials, outlining detailed documentation of illegalities and problems with the Noble and Jack Timber Sales. The Forest Service's reply was that the forest has an aggressive monitoring program which "ensures we stay within the Forest Plan standards and existing regulations."

But what if Threatened, Endangered, or Sensitive (TES) species were found and OOPS! too late! already logged!!!!?

The Lawsuit

The Idaho Sporting Congress (ISC) has filed for a hearing requesting another injunction over the Cove/Mallard sales with the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The appeal covers issues including Endangered Species and the National Environmental Policy Act.

In February 1994, the U.S. District Court in Boise granted a preliminary injunction. Logging was stopped, but only temporarily — the injunction was lifted nine months later.

Court fun

Activists were found guilty of two counts: being in a closed area of the National Forests and blocking logging activities with their bodies. The sentences ranged from 5 to 20 days in jail and from \$500 to \$1000 in fines. Some activists are appealing. The brief of this appeal will be filed March 1st in U.S. District Court.

For more info, contact the Cove/Mallard Coalition, PO Box 8968, Moscow ID 83843 208-882-9755 or 883-0727. E-mail: cove@moscow.com

Headwaters

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important precedent for challenging corporations that bilk taxpayers, plunder precious resources, cheat their workers and on top of it, profit grandly from this activity.

Political Climate: Partly Cloudy With Occasional Squalls

Besides irreplaceable primeval forest and a unique ecosystem, what also hangs in the balance is the survival of a robin-sized endangered seabird, the marbled murrelet. Much of the murrelet's habitat in California is found in the Headwaters Forest complex. This elusive bird feeds at

sea and nests on the wide upper branches of old growth trees. Its critical habitat, 4.5 million acres of ancient forest in California, Oregon and Washington states, is under attack by PL's logging and by measures proposed in Congress, such as the "marbled murrelet extinction rider" that was tacked on to the (now vetoed) budget bill.

A lawsuit filed in September by EPIC (Environmental Protection Information Center, a shining star of cutting edge forestry lawsuits) put an emergency stay on logging in the old growth groves. The suit charges US Fish and Wildlife Service and Pacific Lumber with non-compliance with the Endangered Species Act. (ESA) because the salvage logging would degrade critical habitat. Species protected under the ESA, however, are on even shakier ground now that the Act itself and its implementation procedures are under attack in Congress.

Direct Action!

This campaign has included, besides litigation and legislation, hundreds of direct actions carried out by Earth First! and allies over the last ten years, and last fall was no exception. Tactics have included tree-sits, guerilla tree planting, forest occupations, road blockades and equipment lock-downs. More direct action is planned for this spring and summer as attempted assaults on the forest continue.

What Is At Stake

The ancient redwood ecosystem is unique for its biomass, species diversity, moist climate, and productive soils. But the redwood ecosystem is nearly extinct. Though the redwood forests still support a diverse array of species, the rare and endangered species that call the redwoods home — northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, torrent salamander, tailed frog, and coho salmon are declining. Less than 4% of the original ancient redwood forest ecosystem remains, and many of the acres preserved in parks consist of cut over land.

What You Can Do

There is interest at high levels of government in a debt-for-nature swap. The OTS and FDIC filings provide us with a window of opportunity at the same time we are faced with renewed threats to the forest. Letters and calls to President Clinton and Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt are extremely important right now. Send the message: Direct the Dept. of the Interior to begin acquisition

negotiations for Headwaters Forest; the best route being debt-for-nature.

- Bill Clinton, The White House, Washington DC 20500, 202-456-1111
- Bruce Babbitt, Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C St. NW, Washington DC 20240, 202-208-7351
- Request the beautiful 15 minute Headwaters Forest video and we'll help you host a house party! (donation requested)
- Check out our Web page at <http://mercury.sfsu.edu/~brownb>

Contact the Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters c/o the Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo, Berkeley CA 94702, 510-835-6303.

Great Coast Rainforest

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site. After a month long occupation of Ista, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police converged on the peaceful protesters. Forty one officers arrested twenty two people including three Hereditary Chiefs, fourteen Nuxalk people, and five members of Forest Action Network. All face trial at the Supreme Courts of British Columbia on January 15, 1996.

This is the beginning of this campaign. The Nuxalk Nation and FAN will continue to nonviolently resist the illegal destruction of their remaining territories. "We do this as our obligation to Tatau, the Creator, and also to ensure that our lands provide for our children, grandchildren and children yet unborn."

Update

At the January 15 hearing, the 22 arrestees refused to appear in court, and have been forced into hiding. Nuxalk Hereditary Chief Ed Moody told a Vancouver Sun reporter that they refused to appear because they do not recognize the court's jurisdiction over Nuxalk territory, and that he and others had burned the court injunction prohibiting blockading the logging road.

For the present, Moody and the others cannot return home without risking arrest. "We're exiled from our own land," he said.

Support of all types is urgently needed. Contact the Forest Action Network, P.O. Box 625, Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0 Canada. Phone 604-799-5800. Fax 604-799-5830. email: <fan@alternatives.com> Vancouver phone 604-799-4782.

The Basis of Consensus

by C.T. Butler

In my travels over the years as a teacher and practitioner of Formal Consensus, I have come to identify several major points of understanding about consensus decisionmaking process. I acknowledge that not everyone will agree with me on these points. However, I believe these are the common understandings upon which Formal Consensus is built:

I. Consensus process is completely different from voting process.

II. Consensus is not agreement.

III. Conflict helps decisionmaking.

IV. Anarchy is not chaos.

V. Leadership is a blend of skill and intentional consent to follow.

I. Consensus process is completely different from voting process.

There must be a fundamental shift from competition to cooperation. This must be intentional within the group as a whole and within every individual too. Everyone is expected, at the very least, to act as if they are trying to cooperate. No one is trying to win. All are trying to do what they believe to be in the best interests of the group. During discussion, there is no taking sides, posturing, arguing over which one is better, or having a position. All these behaviors are generated

when one is trying to win. When using consensus, there are many questions asked, alternative points of view considered (even encouraged), ideas modified and synthesized, and processes evaluated. All these behaviors are generated when one is trying to cooperate.

II. Consensus is not agreement.

Agreement means equal to or the same as. (As in, "What you want to do is the same as what I want to do so I agree.")

To give one's consent

means allowance or

acceptance of the

decision, not necessarily

that one agrees with it,

(As in, "I think this is a

bad idea but I'm not

opposed to it and I

cannot think of any-

thing better so I accept

that you want to do it and I will allow it to

happen, or stand aside and let it happen.")

When using consensus, most often people "agree to disagree," accepting the decision without agreeing with part or all of it.

Consensus is not unanimous voting.

III. Conflict helps decisionmaking.

For quality decisions, the group must create an environment in which conflict is invited and supported. This environment is created when there is enough safety for everyone to freely express different points of view. Dominating attitudes and controlling behaviors would be encouraged. In this environment, the expression of conflict creates opportunities for resolution which truly reflect the best efforts of the group.

IV. Anarchy is not chaos.

Anarchy is self-rule; not no rules. Consensus is not structureless. It is an egalitarian structure for which there are few models. It is an alternative to a hierarchical structure. Egalitarian structure is not giving everybody equal power (which is impossible to do); it is giving everybody equal access to power. This requires a structure and *everybody* knowing what the structure is, which is to say, everyone knows in which order events will

take place and when it is, and isn't, the appropriate time for them to share their ideas, raise their concerns, express their feelings. Each individual cooperates with this egalitarian structure voluntarily, with the understanding that if everyone does, it works for the benefit of all, including oneself.

V. Leadership is a blend of skill and intentional consent to follow.

In consensus, the power derived from

A group in which most or all of the members can fill any of the leadership roles cannot easily be dominated, internally or externally.

being in a leadership position is a delicate balance between the individual and the group. Certainly, a significant amount of power comes from the skill, experience, and wisdom of the individual.

With the cooperation of both the person in the leadership role and the group, this power is made egalitarian and accessible to all. This is accomplished not only by rotating roles, but also by intentionally recognizing this power comes directly from the group's willingness, or consent, to follow the direction and leadership of the individual at every step.

Leadership is a characteristic of a role created and empowered by the group. However, there are various reasons why the group would want to create roles for people to fill, both named and unnamed, which are leadership positions. By rotating roles regularly, it soon becomes evident every person has their own style and manner. This knowledge from direct experience of everyone's leadership strengths and weaknesses will strengthen the group. Everyone cooperates by actively sharing skills and information.

A group in which most or all of the members can fill any of the leadership roles cannot easily be dominated, internally or externally.

This article is excerpted from C.T. Lawrence Butler's book, *On Conflict and Consensus* (which defines Formal Consensus). C.T. is also the co-author of *Food Not Bombs: How to Feed the Hungry and Build Community*, and the soon-to-be-published *Consensus for Cities of 100,000*.

To order *On Conflict and Consensus*, send \$15 ppd to Food Not Bombs Publishing, 295 Forest Ave., #314, Portland ME 04101.

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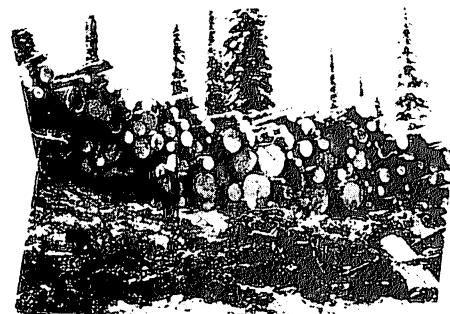


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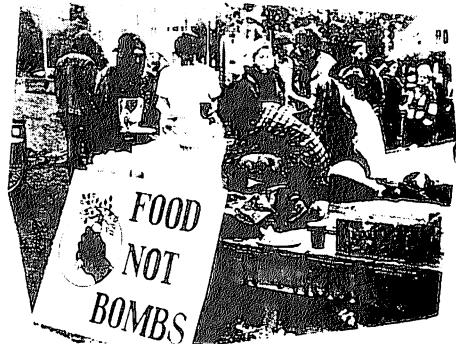
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